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BAHRAIN

SINGAPORE PRIME MINISTER LEAVES FOR IRAN

JN081623Y Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1440 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Manama, 8 June--Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore prime minister, left here this afternoo.. for Iran following a 4-day visit to Bahrain. He was seen off at Bahrain International Airport by the Bahraini prime minister and other senior Bahraini officials. During his visit to Bahrain, Lee Kuan Yew held talks with high-ranking officials on topics of common interest as well as on bilateral relations and ways of promoting them in all fields.

KUWAIT

AFP: SOURCES REPORT PRC FOREIGN MINISTER TO VISIT KUWAIT

OW081354Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1350 GMT 8 Jun 78 OW

[Text] Kuwait, June 8 (AFP)--Chinese Foreign Minister Huang Hua, currently in Holland, will pay an official visit to Kuwait at the end of this month, Foreign Ministry sources said today. The sources said the visit, at the invitation of Kuwaiti Foreign Minister Shaykh Sabah al-Ahmad, would center on strengthening bilateral relations as well as discussion of international issues of mutual interest, The exact date has not yet been set.

GOVERNMENT SUSPENDS AL-HADAF FOR ATTACKING AS-SADAT

JN081047Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Kuwait, 8 June--Kuwaiti authorities have suspended the weekly newspaper AL-HADAF for 1 month, as of today. The suspension came after the paper published an editorial under the heading "Fir'wan" [Pharaoh] by university professor Dr 'Abdallah an-Nafis, who used an analogy to the Pharaohs in the editorial. The writer strongly attacked Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat and described him as an incurably sick man.

It has been learned that the Egyptian ambassador in Kuwait held urgent contacts with the Kuwaiti Foreign Ministry in what seems to be a protest against the AL-HADAF editorial.

UAE

AS-SIYASAH REPORTS DUBAI RULER'S DISAGREEMENTS WITH PRESIDENT

LD081310Y Kuwait AS-SIYASAH in Arabic 6 Jun 78 p 17 LD

[Text] Abu Dhabi--UAE Vice President Shaykh Rashid ibn Sa'id al-Maktum has called for moving the UAE capital from Abu Dhabi, and for taking urgent steps to establish a new capital for the seven-state gulf federation other than in Abu Dhabi.

Shaykh Rashid, the ruler of Dubai, the second largest state after Abu Dhabi, confirmed in an interview with the independent Abu Dhabi newspaper SAWT AL-UMMAH that he has submitted to UAE President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan a six-point plan requesting adherence to the constitution. A provisional constitution was promulgated when the UAE was established in December 1971 and was renewed for a further 5 years at the end of 1976.

However, Shaykh Rashid denied in the interview that he is seeking to dismantle the federation, or to divide its armed forces by asking for a reconsideration of changes introduced to the constitution since it was endorsed. He said that "the substance of these changes might not be the cause of differences, but what I am asking for is a reconsideration of the method by which the changes are being carried out."

He added: "Regarding what is being reiterated by those who are biased to the effect that the purpose of this demand is to keep the armed forces divided, I have no comment to make, except to say that I have done all I can to unify the armed forces."

Regarding the request to rescind the decree appointing Shaykh Sultan ibn Zayid commander in chief of the armed forces, Shaykh Rashid said that the Supreme Council of the federation, which consists of the rulers of the seven emirates, did not approve the decree of appointment. He added: "The decree should be based on a cabinet decision, which never happened."

Shaykh Rashid said: "I have asked that the constitutionality of the federal laws which have been promulgated since the federation was established be discussed. My purpose is to insure that our actions are in accordance with the provisional constitution to which I have been adhering. We will not allow its provisions to be breached so that we can prevent the committing of violations that would arouse unnecessary difficulties and sensitivities."

Shaykh Rashid said that he has asked for adherence to the constitution when the Supreme Council takes decisions. The provisional constitution, he pointed out, provides that Supreme Council decisions must be carried by a majority of five of its members, and that this majority must include Abu Dhabi and Dubai.

Regarding moving the federation capital from Abu Dhabi, Shaykh Rashid said: "The provisional constitution provides for the establishment of a permanent capital for the federation within a period--not exceeding 7 years--from the date of its establishment."

PLO'S ZUHAYR MUHSIN LEAVES UAE FOLLOWING VISIT

JN081659Y Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1608 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 8 June--Head of the PLO Military Department Zuhayr Muhsin left this morning following a visit of several days to the UAE, during which he held talks with a number of UAE officials on the Arab situation and the Palestine question. He was seen off at the airport by a number of UAE Foreign Ministry officials.

YEMEN--PDRY

FOREIGN MINISTER BEGINS VISIT TO CUBA

For Havana reportage on the activities of PDRY Foreign Minister Muhammad Salih Muti' Yafa'i during his current visit to Cuba, see the Cuba section of the 9 June Latin America DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PRIME MINISTER REITERATES SUPPORT FOR OMANI REBELS

LD082037Y Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Summary] A mass rally was held this afternoon at the exhibition hall on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the 9 June Revolution in Oman led by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Oman, PFLO.

The rally was attended by Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau and Central Committee of the United Political Organization-the National Front; ministers; representatives of liberation movements in Aden; diplomats and a large number of citizens.

Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad made a speech at the rally on behalf of the United Political Organization-the National Front, and the government. "The brother prime minister praised the heroic battles waged by the Omani people since the staging of the revolution of 9 June 1965. During the revolution they managed to liberate many parts of their land from the foreign colonialist presence, despite the fact that they were subjected to inhuman campaigns of extermination, carried out by the colonialist forces and foreign invaders.

"The brother member of the Political Bureau and prime minister said: As we hail the valiant heroic struggle of the brotherly Omani people, led by the PFLO, we announce afresh our support and liberational solidarity with the people of Oman for the sake of routing the Iranian invasion and liquidating all forms of foreign presence from the land of Oman--a presence which threatens the peoples of the entire region, including the PDRY.

"The brother prime minister expressed his confidence that the Omani people, whatever difficulties and conspiracies they face, will finally achieve victory using all forms and means of the national liberation struggle. He said: Opposition to the presence of the Iranian invasion forces and other foreign forces in Oman is supported by all peace-loving Arab peoples, including the heroic Iranian people who are still expressing by various means of struggle their rejection of the internal and external policies of the shah of Iran.

"The brother prime minister reiterated the PDRY people's solidarity with the struggle of the Iranian people and their progressive forces. He said: We hail the heroic sacrifices of the Iranian people to achieve progressive changes in their land and keep their country free from the dangers of the imperialist alliances and expansion at their expense.

"The brother prime minister also stressed that the PDRY will continue to provide the necessary support and help to the Palestinian and Omani revolutions, and to all the peoples struggling for their national liberation and social progress. He said: The logic of the era indicates that the winds of revolutionary change are blowing in various places of the world in favor of people's liberation and their social development and progress and in favor of peace and socialism.

"Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, member of the Political Bureau and prime minister, concluded his speech by stressing: The PDRY will strive for Arab solidarity, but on the condition that it is Arab solidarity with the Palestinian revolution and with the Arab peoples struggling for the liberation of their territories and their social progress. He said: We stand against all the conspiracies aimed at delaying the Palestinian revolution or driving the Arab cause to the brink of capitulation.

"At the solidarity rally on the occasion of the 13th anniversary of the outbreak of the revolution in Oman, a speech was made on behalf of the PFLO by Brother Muhammad Ahmad (Rassami), member of the Executive Committee of the front. In it he reviewed the heroic sacrifices offered by the people of Oman to achieve their right to liberation and true independence, and to expel the forces of occupation and invasion and foreign bases and for the sake of democracy and progress. He stressed that the Omani revolution, led by the PFLO, will (?triumpth) whatever the nature of the old or new difficulties.

"He paid tribute to the steadfast and firm principled stands made by the PDRY up to this moment for the Omani people's cause and their just struggle to expel and eliminate the foreign forces, foreign bases and Iranian invaders from Oman and achieve independence, freedom and democracy for Oman.

"A speech was also made at the rally on behalf of the national liberation movements in Aden. It was made by Brother Ahmad Jamil, deputy representative of the PLO in Aden. He pointed out that the Arab liberation movement, led by the Palestinian revolution, is exposed to vicious, reactionary Zionist-imperialist conspiracies aimed at regulating the conditions of the region in favor of American imperialism and its monopolies. He stressed that the Palestinian revolution will stand against the Zionist-American settlement and whoever tries to cooperate for its achievement in the region."

YEMEN--YAR

PRESIDENT AL-GHASHMI GIVES INSTRUCTIONS TO NEW CABINET

JN0819300Y San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[7 June speech by President Ahmad Husayn al-Ghashmi to Prime Minister 'Abd al-'Aziz 'Abd al-Ghani and cabinet members--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] In the name of God Almighty, brother prime minister, brother members of the cabinet, cordial greetings. On the occasion of the formation of your new esteemed government, I have the pleasure to take this opportunity to address this message to you and to all our working Yemeni people through you, stressing to you and to the great sons of our Yemeni people that the struggle of the past and the hopes of the future have crystallized in the objectives of the 26 September 1962 Revolution and in the aspirations of the 13 June 1974 movement. Our people have offered great sacrifices throughout their long struggle. They have offered many martyrs. Our people have spent a large amount of their potential and capabilities during the past period, at the expense of development in various spheres. This has been done to entrench the objectives and values which represent the nobility of our people, and their firm belief in and complete loyalty to their homeland and their Arabism and their adherence to their spiritual values, as included in the Islamic Shari'a.

Through the past stages, our people have proved their steadfastness in facing challenges and surmounting obstacles. At the same time, our people have shown with all confidence their capability for development and modernization. The people are capable of opening up the future, building a society governed by freedom, justice, self-sufficiency and democracy and laying the foundations of a state ruled by law and institutions.

As a result of our belief and our deep conviction and the pledge we have made to this noble people--to give new impetus to the march of the revolution in the various spheres of development and progress, whether in the economic, political or social spheres, and to achieve the objectives and aspirations for which our people have struggled--we have approved the choice of your esteemed government. We are confident, as are all the YAR people, in your capability to shoulder the responsibilities during the next stage. We are also optimistic that your government will be a government of action and construction in the atmosphere of stability reigning over the country.

I will place before your government certain important and vital issues which must be included in your government's plan of action for the next stage and which you must diligently work to achieve. Priority must be given to these issues. The most important of these issues to be included in your government's plan of action are:

1. Every ministry, authority and corporation must shoulder its responsibilities completely. All must fulfill their duties as expected, and those responsible for these institutions must bear the responsibility. Every agency has the obligation to formulate a working agenda. This agenda must be discussed and approved by the cabinet. Thus we will be able to determine the responsibility of every party with regard to the implementation of its plans, as well as the shortcomings which may result and the reasons for these shortcomings.

2. The government must adhere completely to the principle of placing the right person in the right position at the various levels of administrative responsibility, taking into account the nature of his education, his qualifications and the requirements of the post in question. Thus we shall be able to benefit from the scientific and administrative cadres.

3. We must adopt the principle of reward and punishment for performance of duty as a scientific basis for encouraging initiative and urging loyal employees to double their efforts in the service of their homeland, while at the same time we shall be avoiding any negative aspects arising during the march, questioning--without nepotism--all those who fail in their duties. Honorable and loyal work will thus be the only criterion.

4. We must continue to reform the various state agencies and put an end to the remnants of financial and administrative corruption, the waste of potential and lack of discipline in certain agencies.

5. We must preserve and protect the state's public funds and its various properties. We must modernize income-generating departments, control their work and solve all problems obstructing their work so as to limit and reduce the deficit in the state budget, which is one of the strategic aims of the 5-year development plan. We must take into account expenditures, which should be in proportion to revenues, and use judiciously the loans and other aid obtained by the state.

6. We must find swift and just solutions to the problems faced by the citizens and those in the low income bracket, including government employees and members of the armed forces and public security. Basic foods must be made available at the lowest of prices.

We also stress the necessity of continuing the constructive dialog with the brothers of the southern sector of the homeland in order to restore the unity of Yemen, considered the sublime goal which our people in the two sectors have been trying to achieve all through history.

We consider the implementation of the projects included in the 5-year development plan to be the practical test of the success and capability of the government.

We would like to stress the responsibility of all in following up the implementation of projects, becoming acquainted with all negative aspects and obstacles, and working seriously to overcome them to achieve success. We would like to stress the importance of dealing with all problems and issues directly related to the daily life of the citizens and the necessity of solving them, or limiting their effects, as swiftly as possible.

Agriculture in our country has been a source of good for our people since ancient times. Therefore, this sector must be allotted the necessary means for development, expanding the area cultivated and varying the agricultural products.

In the public services sector, due attention must be given to the following: Roads under construction must be completed according to the fixed timetables. Attention must also be given to the maintenance of existing roads and the implementation of new projects for which studies have been completed.

Due attention must be given to the international airport projects in San'a', Al-Hudaydah and Ta'iz. They must be provided with public services in accordance with the requirements and needs of the present and the future.

Attention must be given to the development of Al-Hudaydah port and to completing the new berths in it, in addition to establishing other ports.

The government must also provide more support for the cooperative movement in our country. It must study the problems faced by cooperatives and benefit from experience in other fields to develop the cooperative movement and expand its cooperation with Arab and international cooperative movements.

In the information and cultural spheres, the government must develop television, radio and press. The government must work to make television available to all parts of the republic. The government must disseminate information on the local and international levels to explain state policy on national, pan-Arab and international issues and events.

On foreign policy, your esteemed government must adhere to the firm and clear principles of our foreign policy, which we have formulated and which we are implementing, concerning relations with our brothers, friends and all international organizations. We are always trying to develop and strengthen these relations in the service of our national and pan-Arab issues, in the forefront of which are the Palestinian issue and the issues of justice and peace in the world.

BRIEFS

PDRY-USSR TRADE PROTOCOLS--Trade and Supply Minister Mahmud Sa'id Mahdi returned to Aden today after visiting the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet foreign trade minister. "He said that three protocols had been signed: on bilateral trade during 1979, the importation of Soviet machinery and the training of cadres." [Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 5 Jun 78 LD/EA]

EGYPTIAN VISITOR TO UAE--Abu Dhabi, 2 June--Hamid Habib, first under secretary of the Egyptian Ministry of Industry, Petroleum and Mining, today began a weeklong visit to the UAE. During his visit, Habib will have talks with officials in charge of the industrial sector in the UAE on matters dealing with industrial development and planning in the UAE. [Abu Dhabi EMIRATES NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 Jun 78 JN]

PRESIDENT AS-SADAT ADDRESSES 3D FIELD ARMY

NC0806452Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1841 GMT 7 Jun 78 NC

[Speech delivered by President Anwar as-Sadat to the men of the 3d field Army in Suez on 7 June--recorded]

[Text] In the name of God, [applause] my sons, officers and men of the 3d Field Army. It is with much love and pride that I convey to you and to your brothers in all the branches of the armed forces the greetings and admiration of your people. Had it not been for your performance in Ramadan--October--we would have met in bitterness to swallow the pain and humiliation. But your performance and that of your brothers in all branches of the armed forces was most splendid. As a result of this performance, we are now meeting on such occasions to celebrate one of Egypt's greatest and most distinguished holidays. This is the day when Egypt's sons in the armed forces restored dignity, honor and pride to Egypt and to their Arab nation and taught a lesson to those who used to refer to themselves as an invincible army. You established your independent identity in this victory when you held Kibrit for more than 3 months. Kibrit was one of the points along the Bar-Lev line which fell into your hands. Even after the Israeli infiltration through the bulge, you held on to Kibrit, which had fallen to you. Kibrit was well fortified and there were tanks and all kinds of weapons in it, but it fell into your hands within moments. The Israelis tried for 3 months to retrieve it but failed.

Your performance was independent and splendid, as was the performance of the 2d Army, which destroyed the [Israeli] armored brigade in 20 minutes. Each of you has established his identity and has performed. In the end, Egypt is your mother, and your mother Egypt and the Arab nation is your nation. Your nation is proud of you and your performance. Your nation has regained its place as number six in today's world. The whole world is now aware that the Egyptian fighter has mastered all of the arts of traditional and modern warfare and that the will to fight, which was most splendidly manifested in Ramadan--October, will always remain the shield and sword of Egypt and the Arab nation, God willing.

Yesterday, I spoke to your brothers in the 2d Army. I concentrated on the initiative in my speech yesterday. You might have heard this speech. I told you, and your people through you, about everything that has happened regarding the initiative from the time that it was a mere idea. I explained all the circumstances beginning with the time before the initiative was even contemplated right up to the present situation. I summed up this situation before your brothers in the 2d Army, saying that our mind and heart will remain open and that if there are any signs or details [ay 'alamat aw ayyat tafsilat] in the Israeli stand which are worth sitting down and discussing, we will do so as long as there are new elements.

However, if the Israeli position remains unchanged and does not contain any new elements, then it will be futile to sit down and talk before this change occurs.

I have summed up our policy line in two points. The first is Israel's withdrawal from all the territory occupied in 1967 and equally from all fronts--from the Sinai and the West Bank as well as from Gaza and the Golan. The second point is that the Palestinian question should be solved, not as a refugee or humanitarian problem, but primarily as a political problem.

Today I want to talk to you, as I promised yesterday, about our domestic front. God Almighty has so willed that what has happened in the past 2 weeks began here in this very hall and on this very date last year. I remember that I explicitly told you here, 1 full year ago, that it is imperative for us to forge ahead in the battle to build the Egyptian man through dignity, security and honor. This battle must be the goal of all of us. We are still doing this despite the attempt which was made by some persons on 18 and 19 January 1977, when they tried to divert our march from its sound course. They thought that I would go back on democracy and revert to imposing dictatorship on this country. Their action had absolutely no effect on the measures which we have taken and on which we have agreed to build our homeland on the basis of freedom, the freedom of man and the dignity of man. I explicitly set forth my goal in this hall. I had also said: I have not opened the concentration camps, I have not formed military courts and I have not resorted to martial law. However, I have left the matter up to the public judiciary to say its word. The history of these persons began with 15 May [1971]. I am talking about the Marxists here. The history of these persons began with 15 May when we eliminated the centers of power in Egypt and closed the detention camps forever after 40 full years, before and after the revolution. The permanent constitution was then issued in September 1971 and other events followed in 1972. In July of that year, I ordered the expulsion of the Soviet experts from the armed forces, and in October 1973 I issued the order to you, and you performed your task in the best possible and most splendid manner, as admitted by our foes before our friends. And this achievement is enough to make the 3d Army proud.

This was exactly what I said to you 1 year ago. I also said: I have noted your steadfastness in the bulge, particularly in Kibrit. In those days there was a small minority in Cairo with shaky nerves. God willing, your people have been and will continue to be proud of you and your action. But among every people we find a few persons, that is, a clique, whose souls are consumed by bitterness or whose existence is dominated by defeatism. Or it could be that they are concerned about their standard of living.

I spoke to you last year in this place about this clique and this minority when I said: The Egyptian people and the Egyptian forces were not shaken by the bulge. I said that those who were shaken were those agents and the rancorous cliques in Cairo--and I was then laughing. The broad popular base, as it has always done, believed in you before and after October during the battle of the bulge and throughout all the phases of the fighting. The only exception was a small clique to whom I referred yesterday when addressing the 2d Army. Those are the agents and the rancorous cliques.

I said all these things to you last year. I even said more. I said: We have granted you freedom and you have set the sublime example of voluntary sacrifice. You sacrificed for Egypt, for Egypt's freedom and Egypt's dignity. This made the whole world respect you and respect your Arab nation.

In today's world and here, the example is set for these politicians who think that the hands of the clock can be turned back. I tell them: Here is some advice. Do not try to do this because the hands of the clock will never be turned back. I then said: The will never go backward.

As for the freedom of the press, it was imperative for us to pay the price. When I granted this freedom after 40 years, they surged forward as if freedom of the press meant nothing more than criticizing and launching attacks. You once heard me speak of some foreign ambassadors who had asked: When will the revolution erupt? They asked this question in view of what our press had been saying and publishing about mistakes and deviations, as if there was absolutely no construction going on in the country. This is a regrettable thing and I cautioned the journalists about it. However, and despite all these things, I will not go back on the freedom of the press. I also said in this hall a year ago: The surprising thing is that next 23 July, that is 23 July 1977 [as heard], we will be celebrating the 25th anniversary of the revolution, while you have lived up to the trust placed in you. Therefore, I address the politicians in Egypt and tell them: Take the example from here, from your armed forces. There were deviations in our revolution which we corrected. After this, the armed forces handed over the people's revolution to the people. What is prevailing now is the supremacy of law, the state of institutions and the constitutional legitimacy, which has replaced the revolutionary legitimacy. Let no veteran or new politician try to exploit this situation which we have arrived at after 25 years of struggle, battles, building and efforts. No professional must exploit this situation, particularly not those whose nerves were shaky during the war.

I also said last year, in these very words: After the October battle nothing was left but freedom of the press. I granted the press full freedom. There had been no such freedom for 40 years before 1974. There was no such freedom even in the era of the parties which are now speaking up, maintaining that the prerevolution era was an era of freedoms. This is not true. All of us know history and know about the press laws which the majority party at that time--the Al-Wafd Party-- submitted to the parliament to satisfy the king and the palace. Some people are now trying to turn the clock back and reinstate the Al-Wafd Party. I told you all this a year ago, and I have repeated it to you in order that your people can hear, through you, what we spoke about last year and can hear an explanation of what has happened as we meet this year.

You have been loyal to your country, the Arab nation, the people and the future generations. You have been loyal in your performance. In your capacity as part of Egypt's armed forces which carried out the 23 July Revolution 26 years ago, you have also been loyal to your people, your history and to future generations. After 25 years of the revolution and for the first time in history, the revolution was returned to its original owner--the people. This was done through constitutional legitimacy after terminating the revolutionary legitimacy. It was done in complete freedom and under circumstances in which there were no detention camps and there was the supremacy of law. It was done without the adoption of any extraordinary measures--custodianship, confiscation or any measure which detracts from man's dignity. Indeed, the measures which were adopted at one time or another were rectified by the 15 May Revolution. The 23 July Revolution remained the mother revolution and the starting point in Egypt's modern history and in the building of modern Egypt.

As I told you, it was imperative a year ago to carry out what has happened over the past 2 weeks. This is so because I have said this to you, and all the people have also heard what I told you here a year ago.

My words are written and recorded in the newspapers and in history. What occurred 2 weeks ago should have been carried out a year ago. It was delayed for a year.

To explain things to you, it is imperative for me to go back a little. After the 1967 defeat, we all lived with bitterness, wounds and pain. We experienced these things in the armed forces, among the people and in every home throughout the land of our sacred and green valley, in our desert and everywhere. Your people lived in anticipation of the hour of salvation. They put their complete confidence in you, in their armed forces, despite what had happened in 1967. This is because--as I had previously announced and recorded and as history had recorded--the 1967 defeat was not sustained because of your combat performance. It happened because Egypt's armed forces were not given the opportunity to fight. You have never been the reason for the defeat. I have announced this to your people, to the People's Assembly, and at all meetings, and it has gone down in history, because it is fact. You have absolutely never figured as a reason for the defeat.

As I have said, your people had confidence and still have confidence in you and in the fact that you will definitely help them. In those days, in the wake of the 1967 defeat, that was your people's position. However, there was the small minority that gloated over everything. They gloated over the defeat, although it had been sustained in their land and country and in their Egypt, exactly as it is the Egypt of all of us. However, the only thing rancorous souls can live on is hate, bitterness and envy. This small minority gloated over their people. With God as my witness, I say that even before the October battle, the popular base never lost confidence in you for a single moment, never.

Then I assumed responsibility in 1970 following 'Abd an-Nasir's death. I announced that my first objective was the battle; it was imperative for us to avenge ourselves. All the people were unanimous in their belief in me, except for the members of this envious minority, and every one of them disbelieved me for reasons of their own. I began to suffer. I visited you here before the October battle. I visited you in July and on various occasions, and I personally followed the preparations which were being made for the battle at the very time when this small minority wanted me to use the defeat as a takeoff point for the achievement of their objectives. Who were these people? They were the Marxists and those elements in whose hearts the spirit of defeatism took root. They began to curse their army and their armed forces and to cast doubt on everything, on all of our achievements and on the fact that the battle would be waged.

In 1971 they went to the universities and tried to incite the students. In 1972 they resorted to the same method--demonstrations and attempts to carry out acts of sabotage in this country. While we were silently and discreetly preparing for the battle, they were describing us as defeatists and liquidationists and saying that we would not fight. They heaped more abuse on the Egyptian armed forces. They said that the Egyptian armed forces were not efficient and lacked the capacity to confront Israel's invincible army. Some of them wrote about the futility of the battle. You complained to me when I visited you here about such writings. The pilots in Bilbays complained to me about those writers, who were full of a spirit of defeatism and who were driven by grudges. The pilots in Bilbays complained to me.

They incited the students. They also tried to incite the workers, the workers of Egypt who recorded a bright picture on 18 and 19 January 1977.

The workers of Egypt and the rest of the Egyptian people, with the exception of this spiteful minority, represent the domestic front which is defending your backs.

They tried to stage demonstrations in the universities. You know that in 1971 I closed the detention camps forever. I liquidated the custodianships. I abolished all the extraordinary measures. The permanent constitution was introduced. The state of institutions and the supremacy of the law came into existence.

Their aim was to make me go back on all this and to resort to dictatorship again so that they could tell the world: Do not trust As-Sadat's words because he has promised democracy but has reverted to dictatorship.

I know that they are a few spiteful elements, both the Marxists who have grown up under the protection of the Soviet Union and the defeatists who sometimes exploit the name of 'Abd an-Nasir and at other times exploit anything and any suffering in an attempt to recover their lost position.

These spiteful Marxists and defeatists are a small, insignificant minority. They do not want any accomplishment to take place in this country. The Marxists want a Marxist state. The opportunists want dictatorship and autocratic rule so that they can dominate the people as they did before through extraordinary measures, intimidation, custodianship and so on.

As I have told you, they are a small minority. They incited the students in 1971, 1972 and 1973. Before the battle, I suffered, but, as I told you last year, I will not go back on democracy. They want to deceive the people into believing that I will go back on my promise about democracy.

I say that they are a very small, insignificant minority, because the popular base, as I have told you, during and after the defeat and up to the October war continued to have confidence that you would take revenge. In the October battle, the sentiments of your people became apparent in a most splendid way. This is still true today and, God willing, will be true until doomsday.

I have tolerated many abuses. But I have always tried to prevent the evils of this group from affecting the broad popular base. In doing so I resorted to the law, because I have not and never will go back on democracy. I resorted to the law. I did not reopen the detention camps, although I had the right to do that and even more, because I was preparing for the fateful battle--your battle. In the event I discover something in the domestic front that is not protecting your backs or is trying to stab you in the back, I will strike at it. I say and I repeat: Any person in the domestic front, whatever his position or however loud his voice, who tries to stab you in your back, I will strike at with absolute violence. There is no argument about this. [applause]

However, at that time the matter did not require me to strike. No. What I am enthusiastic about and pride myself in and what makes you proud of me is the fact that throughout the revolution and after the corrective revolution we provided the Egyptian people with the freedom which they lacked for many centuries of foreign rule, Mameluke's rule, Turkish rule and the rule of the Muhammad 'Ali family.

Throughout these periods, the Egyptian people were oppressed. After the 15 May Revolution, which corrected the 23 July Revolution, our people have been living under one of the most splendid democracies they have ever lived under. I am proud of this. This is why I will not go back on democracy, because it is the pride of all of us.

However, they tried everything. I did not respond. I resorted to the sovereignty of the law. The students were referred to the prosecution. I removed those elements, particularly journalists, who were distorting the image of their country. I removed 120 of them. I did not cut off their livelihood or send them off to remote institutions to earn their living. No. I transferred them to the Information Department. I said that perhaps this will serve to deter them. Why? Because some of these journalists, who are still around today, have been and still are contacting foreign correspondents to give them a [false] picture, which is then circulated abroad. On 1 January 1973 I gave orders to Marshal Isma'il to prepare the plan. In February 1973 we were at the general command of the armed forces looking over the sand table model. In March 1973 I gave the first alert order to prepare the forces for battle. Training in combat tasks then began according to the plan we reviewed on the sand table model with all the commanders of the armed forces in February 1973. After the alert order was given in March, training began. You all lived through this period, because you are the ones who carried it out and entered the battle. At this time, while all this was taking place in total secrecy, this minority was telling the foreign journalists: Egypt is collapsing; we expect a military coup to take place in Egypt any time; Egypt is an unstable country; Egypt is finished and will not fight; As-Sadat only wants to sit in power and why should he fight? He will not fight. This is the campaign which was being launched.

A foreign correspondent wrote three articles in a British paper early in 1973 giving the impression that Egypt was finished politically, militarily and economically. He wrote three similar articles in the American paper, the New York TIMES. All this happened in 1971 [date as heard] when we were working, as I told you. The foreign correspondent who wrote in the New York TIMES was in contact with the group of the opportunist journalists and writers here in Egypt. He wrote three articles in the New York TIMES, telling the American people. American people, there is no longer anything called Egypt. Why did he write this? It is because these rancorous persons believed that they could change the course of events by such a method or have a share again [in running the country]. I did not heed any of this. I referred the students to the prosecution and the journalists to the Information Department. I said then that I was preparing for the battle but they did not believe me. I had been saying this since 1971, but they did not believe me. Nor did this minority believe me in 1973. However, I can tell you what I depended on then and am still depending on. I depended and still am depending on the broad base, which represents more than 95 percent of your country's population. They are the good people. They are your good and honorable relatives. More than 95 percent of the population had confidence in me and believed every word I said. This part of the population had confidence in you because it knew that you would get revenge one day. This is why I did not heed these persons. There was no reason for me to adopt any measures. However, I will never hesitate to strike most violently at anyone who might threaten the domestic front or attempt to hit at the armed forces while we are waging the battle of liberation and reconstruction.

I will not show any mercy at all. Democracy does not mean irresponsibility, shamelessness or an attempt to sow hatred among the people by making a person hate his brother or making a person in one place hate his colleague in another place.

I paid no heed to this. When I spoke at the People's Assembly last week, you heard me talking about the Cairo of 1973 and the Cairo of 1978. What is the explanation of this? When I speak about the Cairo of 1978, I hope it will not occur to anyone that I am talking about all 8 million inhabitants of Cairo. I am actually referring to certain loud voices which are attempting to mislead. But rest assured, my sons, that your base, which represents 95 percent of the population, has unconditionally and unreservedly supported you during and after the defeat, and before, during and after the battle, and that nothing will ever shake that base. Why did I refer to the Cairo of 1973 of which I spoke to you? The elements with loud voices in Cairo tried at that time to distort the image of Cairo. These elements do not represent Cairo, which has a population of 8 million, 99 percent of whom are honorable people. The remaining 1 percent are the rancorous ones, but their voice is loud in Cairo because they include writers, journalists and opportunists. They also include officials in the state departments who are trying to spit venom.

They only account for 1 percent of Cairo's population, but their voice is loud. Anyone who had read the three articles which were written in the British GUARDIAN and the three other articles which were written by the same writer in the New York TIMES would have gotten the impression that Egypt was finished politically, militarily and economically, that there would be no battle or anything else, and that the situation had collapsed.

I then laughed, as I have told you, because we were proceeding to implement the plan and were proceeding with the training necessary to carry out the plan. Then the day came in October when you carried out your splendid performance which changed all the values. The pre-October-1973 world will always go down in history as different from the post-October-1973 world. This is final. Your performance had gone down in history.

As you remember, in 1974, after the battle--we waged our battle in October 1973 and we carried out the first disengagement of forces in January 1974--I immediately granted full freedom to the press for the first time in 40 years--and without any strings attached. They are claiming that the freedom of the press existed during the era of the parties. It is a pity that they should mislead the people and falsify history. Why? Because things are written. The papers and the books of this era are available and those who had lived through that era are still alive and they have given their testimony. The only time the censor touched the newspapers was when I indicated he should do so in February 1974. That was after the first disengagement of forces, which took place in January. As you have heard me say and as I have told you here, they thought that because they were given freedom after 40 years, they thought that freedom meant they should cast doubt on everything. They depicted things in such a way as to show that there were only deviations and mistakes in Egypt. What had happened? We were just emerging from our misery and we were shouldering burdens which could crush mountains. We were just emerging from our splendid performance in our battle which dazzled the whole world. We were emerging to rectify things. Yes, there are mistakes, failures, difficulties and tendencies to get into ruts in the public services. But these are things left over from the 1960's. They did not originate in the 1970's; they go back to the early 1960's.

We are reforming and the reform process is going on. For instance, you have heard about the aluminum complex which I recently visited in Naja' Hammadi. It occupies an area of 5,000 feddans. It represents modern Egypt. This complex includes dwellings for the workers, engineers and employees. The complex is in a desert which you have heard me call the (?Al-Hayy) Desert. It is called (?Al-Hayy) because it is a desert which has been turned into a paradise. The aluminum complex was established and its sales for 1 year paid for the cost of establishing it. Do you know when we began to build this complex? Around the beginning of 1973, while I was preparing with you for the battle, while I was facing the baseness and absurdities of the rancorous persons and the Marxists and their attempts to pressure the domestic front, I was also facing the two superpowers.

At that time the Uni ed States stood solidly behind Israel--and I was confronting the United States. The Soviet Union was outrightly pursuing a particular policy toward me--and I was confronting the Soviet Union. All those things occurred in 1974 and, in the midst of all these things, we began to build the aluminum complex. In just 1 year, the revenue of the complex paid for the cost of its establishment. After all these things, as you know and as you have heard, Egyptian aluminum has become world famous for its good quality and purity. This is why it is being sold at prices higher than that charged for any other aluminum. It is like cotton, for which the prices are paid in accordance with the grades of cotton. Our aluminum was produced in the most splendid manner. Who carried out this process? May God rest his soul, an Egyptian man, a layman and a peasant. He built this whole lofty edifice.

We did all this while being exposed to the abuses of these scoundrels and while we were preparing for the battle and confronting the United States and the Soviet Union.

In 1978, this year, I saw the same behavior being repeated. The astonishing thing is that the same elements are foolishly behaving in the same way toward me. The Marxists have dominated the leftwing here. As you know, we established democracy here with three wings--right, left and center. In a democracy in the world or anywhere in the world where genuine democracy exists, political life does not contain more wings than right, left and center. We began the experiment and parties were established. The elements which existed in Cairo in 1973 were the Marxists, the opportunists who exploited the name of 'Abd an-Nasir and the rancorous. I called this group the bubbles, because they are above the surface and are worthless, while the popular base is safe and sound.

In 1978 the picture changed a little, but the aims were the same. The picture changed in that new forces entered the scene. Parties had been formed, although I warned you here before that we will not accept the return of old parties, and I mentioned the name of the Al-Wafd Party in particular. We launched the 23 July 1952 Revolution because the Al-Wafd Party had been more eaten through by corruption than any other party. Had a communist revolution taken place after Cairo had been set on fire, as was being planned, it would have resulted in all of them being massacred and wiped out. We did not massacre anyone after the July 1952 Revolution. We did not massacre anyone and the revolution took its course. When deviations took place in this revolution, we corrected them ourselves. We did not need a revolution from outside to correct the deviations. This is the first time such a thing has happened in history.

I have warned that the old parties cannot come back because everything has changed after 25 years. The outbreak of the 23 July Revolution simply meant that the exploitation of the broad base of the Egyptian citizen by the big landlords, pashas, and feudalists, so they can spend the money in Europe or buy Aubusson carpets for their homes, had ended. The broad base of the Egyptian people had attained its rights.

When we say today that we have a supply problem, this problem does not affect the rich people. The supply problem affects the broad base. All the work today, after the 23 July Revolution, is aimed at the broad base of the people and not the top class of landlords, feudalists, pashas and the like. I warned that such a thing is useless.

The Marxists in 1978 are in a better situation than in 1973. In 1973 they had no party or political wing recognized by the state. In 1978 they have a political wing, and not only a political wing and a party, but also a newspaper.

The Al-Wafd Party, which called itself the New Al-Wafd party, was also established. I did everything I could last summer to make these people understand that there can be no going back. I spoke to you a year ago and expressed my opinion then before the party was established. It was useless. The love for leadership and prominence, and regrettably the hate which accumulated from the past, the glitter of rule and of being in the limelight make people forget and imagine that 25 years of the life of the people and the revolution can be ended, and everything can return to what it was before.

They started saying that there was democracy before the revolution, that there was freedom before the revolution and that there was a press before the revolution. It is as if we of the revolution have abolished everything--as if everything has become bitter, while before the revolution it was all milk and honey.

We have the history. Why must we falsify facts? We have the history there. Pomposity is futile. Why is it futile? Because the regime in Egypt since 23 July 1952 does not work in the dark. We work in broad daylight.

There were deviations; I rectified them on 15 May 1971. The state of institutions has been established. The supremacy of the law has been established. Freedom of the press has been established. The dignity, security and safety of the individual has been established.

Moreover, we have the newspapers, magazines and books which were issued before 1952. Everyone can read them. Why then this pomposity?

In Cairo the communists controlled the leftwing and issued a newspaper.

The recent step taken by the New Al-Wafd Party to dissolve itself is a real farce. The people have decided that the politicians who corrupted the political life before 1952 must step aside and leave the democratic march to the new generations, the latest of which is the October generation, which is us.

When the people say this, this means that these old politicians must leave and disappear from political life. However, their dignity must be preserved; there must be no custodianship. They must not be insulted, arrested or detained. They must not be stopped from earning a living, and their life and dignity should not be interfered with.

When the people said this, the great farce occurred.

When the people said: The old generations must step down and the new generations must take over, the Al-Wafd Party, which represented the majority before our 1952 revolution, the Al-Wafd Party dissolved itself--as if the party belonged to one man.

When these old politicians found that they would not be able to engage in politics because the people had decided this in the referendum, the entire party dissolved itself. This step was really stupid and ridiculous.

However, it is important for me to say, because your people is hearing me also now, my sons--it is important for me to say that here and in this place and with you, my sons, I drew attention to this a year ago. I said: There will be no return to the past because it is the byword for personal grudges and personal leaderships. I said this verbatim here a year ago. After 1 year the New Al-Wafd Party dissolved itself. During this 1 year, several of those whom I call spiteful people rushed to join this party, hoping that they and the New Al-Wafd Party would achieve something now that an end has been put to hatred and opportunism.

I do not know how the leaders of this party think. When the people decided to exclude those who corrupted the political life before 1952--and the revolution broke out to eliminate this corruption--the leader of the party adopted a step which meant "either I or no one."

This is the concept which we want to abolish. Parties throughout the world are based on theories and programs. The theory of the right is known. The right is represented by capitalism and takes several forms. The center is represented by a kind of socialism between capitalism and communism. The left is communism.

As for the left, its elements in some countries are Marxists and in other countries social democrats, as is the case with our country.

Party and political action are not whimsical. We must discard the old method which the 1952 revolution came to remove. We must discard the juggling of old time. We must renounce the parties which are ruled by one man according to his aims and motives and whose aims are influence, showmanship and grabbing of power.

In today's world a party would declare: Here is my plan for building the country. The party explains how the country is to be built and what the economy and the policy will be. The party explains whether its policy line will be alinement or nonalinement, membership in a bloc or pacts, or a repudiation of all these things.

Political action is no longer what it used to be; that is, political action is no longer carried out according to the old concept. This is why the 23 July Revolution emerged. In fact, I was watching the bandwagon and the people who were trying to take the country back to the past and to the state of the pashas, feudalism, landlords and opportunists. I was surprised because these people include persons whom I had seen in the past. I was surprised. The 23 July Revolution told the people, and this was then confirmed by the 15 May corrective movement: People, you have absolute freedom and you are the masters of your destiny. The time has gone forever when a peasant's son must be a peasant and a worker's son a worker, without any other opportunity ahead of him.

No, there are now equal opportunities. This has resulted in the fact that we [illegible] among the sons of the impoverished peasants university professors, officers, engineers and doctors. In my own village we were the only ones who were educated. Now there are doctors, engineers and officers in my village, and some of my villagers are in the university. What is this owing to? It is owing to equal opportunities.

We are telling the people: This is your policy. Beware. Do not give it up. I am surprised that a small faction educated at the expense of the country is now reverting to slavery and insisting on going back to the slavery of the pashas. I believe that all of these people deserve our hatred.

In 1978, as I have told you, I mean in 1973, by God, the left was not recognized and it worked underground. Despite the depravity, shamelessness, excesses, the casting of doubt and the attempts they had made at the university and elsewhere, this was no longer the case in 1978. The left then became a wing. It was recognized by the state, and it had its newspaper. The left was joined by the reactionary right or the New Al-Wafd Party, which is deeply involved in hatred. Suddenly, in the past 2 months, around the beginning of 1978, a campaign--exactly like that of 1973--was launched. In this campaign it was said that Egypt was finished. This thing was also said in the foreign newspapers through the foreign correspondents and according to the same method which was used in 1973. It was said that Egypt was finished economically, politically, militarily and every other way. The regime was finished. All the officials were thieves. Doubts were cast on every human being. I investigated and found out that this story was being repeated in the same way as in 1973. What new elements did I find involved in their campaign? The Marxists were stronger because they controlled the leftwing and were recognized by the state. Well, we said that the left should be an Egyptian left, not a Soviet left, and they had their newspaper. The New Al-Wafd Party joined in the battle and the left formed a coalition with the right. The extreme right joined forces with the extreme left. But over what? Over casting complete doubt on everything--casting doubt on the country, the regime, the rulers and our achievements. My God, there is nothing like figures, because essays are futile; figures speak for themselves. The figures are available to us and the government presents them to the People's Assembly. You all can see that our People's Assembly is totally free and no one interferes with it. On the contrary, the assembly members even overdo things. Everything can be discussed and everything is open.

As I have said, these are the old methods of the Al-Wafd Party. The spreading of rumors, the casting of doubt and the defaming of the regime and the government are old Al-Wafd methods. It is just as if the English, the king and the same corrupt parties of the pre-23 July period are all still with us. These are the same methods of defamation and undermining. They are not content with doing this at home. The parties gather the foreign correspondents for a press conference--thanks to democracy and party life--to defame Egypt and to say that the situation is bad and so forth. When they did that in 1973 I removed the journalists responsible and transferred them to the Information Department out of concern for your battle and for the people in the rear. I told them: You stay there. Things proceeded well. They have the right to call a press conference, as they indeed did. The party of the left yesterday or the day before yesterday invited the foreign correspondents to a press conference and excluded the Egyptian journalists and told them: We are this and that, and so forth and so on. This is the party's right, because it is a party and this is part of its political activity.

The Al-Wafd Party is the same. The party members got together on the basis of hatred, bitterness and the attempt to defame every honorable man and to say that no achievements have been made in the country. You have seen through my various visits the potential of this country. Our potential is unbelievable, in land, water, people and everything. It is necessary to have certain programs and plans.

For example, you may remember 2 years ago that the only talk in the papers was about [the shortage of] chicken. Poultry breeding was included in our program. Today, people in some places complain that the companies we have set up, and the merchants, are working with the chicken producers in an attempt to manipulate the prices because chicken has become abundant. Why is this? Because poultry breeding has become part of the food security plan.

It will take until 1980 to overcome the bottleneck we are in. Why? Because we neglected agriculture and turned to industry in the past 25 years, although agriculture is the basis of our economy. Before the population was not so big, but now we are increasing by 1 million people annually. The result is that what we produce is not enough to eat. Therfore, it is necessary to have programs and plans, and this takes time. We have the land, the water and everything. We have brought in new technology and we are using it, for example, in Al-Mullak, Aswan and As-Salihiyah. The potential is unbelievable. Poultry breeding went on without anyone realizing it. By 1980 everything will be available. We are not making plans just forthe period up to 1980 but for the period up to the year 2000, so that no one will come as I did, and find there is no food and the country is not producing its own food. The plans are going ahead. Egypt must produce all its food apart from wheat, which we will import. Egypt must produce all its food, apart from wheat, and even export some of it by 1980, God willing.

Why should all of this be the subject of defamation and suspicion?

There is a new kind of irresponsibility. Some people believe that democracy means that anyone can use abusive language. One stands in parliament and uses abusive language. Is this the kind of example we are setting for the people? Are we teaching the people shamelessness and rudeness? Journalists contact foreign correspondents. I say before you to the foreign correspondents in Egypt: Nothing published abroad will harm us, because it will not affect us. Their continued contacts with the elements of rancor will be useless to them. Why? Because the truth will inevitably come out.

Any attempt to contact these rancorous persons in order to distort Egypt's image will lead nowhere in the end because we will tell any person who commits anything against Egypt: We thank you, but we do not want you with us. Write whatever you wish from your own country. I also say that I do not ask them to campaign for Egypt. None of them has campaigned for Egypt. What has campaigned for Egypt is Egypt's own performance; it is your performance in October, the peace initiative, Egypt's word, Egypt's place, Egypt's position and Egypt's weight in its Arab nation and area. All this has reached the outside world and the people outside know it. Therefore, we do not care for what they write, but there must be discipline and commitment. We will not tolerate shamelessness. We will tell anyone who writes something wrong: Do not write any more, brother. Go with Godspeed to your own country dignified and honored. We have no time for this nonsense. Go and say what you like about our democracy because we do not care.

There is a strange campaign of irresponsibility in the People's Assembly. Some members are deliberately behaving shamelessly and cursing others. There are journalists who provide material for the foreign correspondents. There are writers who write cursing Egypt. The fact is that they receive 1,000 pounds monthly for cursing Egypt. These people want a good standard of living, so they curse Egypt in order to receive 1,000 pounds monthly while living here enjoying democracy, security and safety. Nobody here in Egypt can attack anybody else.

The 18 and 19 January incidents will not be repeated. If they even think about repeating them, I will turn the incidents against them. In other words, their own blood will be shed because my people must live in security, tranquillity, peace and under the supremacy of the law. Discussion should be expressed through dialog, not through attempts to impose bloody activities to intimidate the people. I will show them no mercy but will spill their own blood in the streets. [prolonged applause]

This is the Cairo of 1978. As for the Marxists with you, sons, the truth is that, as you recall, I spoke here last year and said that anyone who has no faith cannot be trusted. I said no Marxist can be entrusted with any post in the information or culture media which influences the people or in the press or any leading position in which he can harm the masses. I told you this a year ago. I have been telling you for the past 2 weeks that I am 1 year late. Why am I 1 year late? It is because I hoped that each person would understand his responsibility toward his country. It is also because I knew that there might be the odd ones in the one family I am building, but in the end we are one family and the odd ones might return to the family fold. Regrettably, however, these are base human instincts which man cannot resist. The only remedy for this is punishment, severe punishment.

This is what has happened. What did the people say in the referendum? They said four things. First, they said that the communists must not occupy leading positions which influence the people, the upcoming generations or the youth in a manner conflicting with the heavenly religions. This is not something new I am saying. I said it here to you my sons in June 1977, 1 year ago. I was 1 year late in implementing this. Secondly, they said that the leaders of the old parties, which corrupted political life before 1952--thus bringing about the outbreak of the revolution--and which we destroyed finally, must not enter the political life with us because our democracy is now pure.

Thirdly, the people said: Those who had been sentenced in the case of the centers of power, those who had tortured people and those about whom we have heard all these things are to be isolated from political life. Not one of them should come in the future and say: I will join and work in political life. A party would then rally around him or he would join a party. They would adopt him and he would then become a ruler. These are three of the things which the people have said.

As I am telling you, I am 1 year late. I should have presented these things to the people 1 year ago. As for the Marxists you have here, I said: Those who have no faith cannot be trusted. I also spoke here about the New Al-Wafd and the old parties. I spoke here 1 year ago. To be more specific, I read to you what I had said. I am 1 year late. As for those who were involved in centers of power, well, this is something natural. In other words, there is no place for any of these people in a pure democracy.

The people said a fourth thing: The press is the property of the people. As I have told you, the press in Egypt has passed through certain circumstances. It was owned by individuals and parties until the 23 July Revolution. The press continued to be owned by individuals for some time after the 23 July Revolution. It was then nationalized. I am now saying that the press must be owned by the people. Why do I say this? I have spoken to you about the Cairo of 1978 in which there are elements of the left and of the New Al-Wafd Party, around which the begrudged and opportunistic people have rallied. One of the things these elements want to exploit is the democratic atmosphere. In other words, when the parties law was promulgated, it gave them the right to publish a newspaper without a permit. Do you know what had to be done before the revolution in order to get a newspaper published? Applications had to be made to the Publications Department and to the Interior Ministry. It was an unbelievable process to get a license to publish a newspaper.

We promulgated the parties law in the fall because we were advocating the supremacy of the law--and we have meant and will continue to mean what we have said and what we will say. If we do not mean something, we will say that we do not mean it. When I do not want something, I will tell the people and I will tell you: No, I reject this thing. But as long as we advocate supremacy of the law, then there will be supremacy of the law.

The parties law says: Every party which is recognized by the state under the parties law will have the right to publish a newspaper without asking for anyone's permission. Indeed, the Arab Socialist Party of Egypt began publishing a newspaper without a permit; the National Progressive Unionist Grouping Party--the Marxists--began publishing a newspaper without a permit, and the third party, the Socialist Liberal Party, began publishing a newspaper without a permit. Why? Did they do so because the supremacy of the law exists? They got no permit from the Publications Department nor from the interior minister and nobody opposed them, absolutely not. Well, what has happened? We have all seen the newspaper of the Marxists. This is nothing but a hate sheet: a surprising process of hatred. As I told your brothers in the 3d Army yesterday, the surprising thing is that I should carry out the peace initiative and that Russia alone should oppose it. Why did Russia oppose my initiative? Because Russia is not in the picture or because this process was not carried out via Russia. Well, I did not carry out this initiative through the United States. As you have read in news dispatches, when the U.S. President heard of the initiative, to use the very English expression, they say he was stunned [As-Sadat uses the English word "stunned"]; he was left open-mouthed. That was the U.S. President. When I carried out my initiative, I did not ask the United States or the Soviet Union to help me. This is a purely Egyptian initiative, as when I embarked on my first initiative in 1971. In 1971 our relations with the United States were severed, and we still entertained some hope toward the Soviet Union at that time. Despite this, I did not contact either the Soviet Union, with which we then had contacts, or the United States.

The same thing applies to the latest initiative. Indeed, as the dispatches say, the U.S. President was astounded when he heard of my initiative. No, the Soviets said: No, this is a sell out of the cause and a separate solution.

As you recall, they used the words "a separate solution" to attack us after the first disengagement agreement, after the second disengagement agreement and after the initiative. They also incited Syria and the Palestinians to say the same thing.

When the American correspondents go to the Syrian president to interview him, he says:

I am in favor of a peaceful solution. They tell him: But what As-Sadat is doing is a peaceful solution. He says: No, he will conclude a separate solution. They tell him: As-Sadat has suspended the Jerusalem talks and has declared a million times that he is not after a separate solution.

Moreover, if I was after a separate solution, there was no need for me to make my initiative or to visit Jerusalem. There was no need for anything. If the Jews were to learn tomorrow that I wanted a separate solution, they would come running to sign.

The last time Israeli Defense Minister Weizman visited me, 1 and 1/2 months ago--I say this for the sake of history and the whole world and Israel and everybody who is hearing me--Weizman told me: We are prepared to reach a solution with you. We have no demands in Sinai. We make no claim on you at all. Just sign with us regarding Sinai. I told him: Sorry, Sinai is not the problem. The Palestinian issue is the problem. [applause]

The vice president and War Minister al-Jamasi were sitting with me.

Weizman--he can hear me now--tried most persistently. I told him: Sinai is not the problem. I am not afraid about Sinai. When I went to your Knesset, I told you: I have not come to ask anything from you. Sinai is my land and country and I will take it. I have come to you for peace, in order to build peace.

I told him: By God, if I were sure that this separate solution would bring about peace in the area, I would go for it.

You recall that when I embarked on my initiative, I did not embark on it because I wanted a separate solution or because I had become fed up with war. I embarked on it from a position of strength. I applied the principle which I explained in the People's Assembly in November. I said that if we can achieve our aims and recover all our lands without a battle and without my sons, the soldiers and officers, shedding a drop of blood, I am ready to go the ends of the earth, including the Knesset. I said this in November.

I said I am ready to go the ends of the earth, including to the Knesset, if we can achieve a just peace that will return the lands without a battle, without resorting to war. Why? Because I am concerned about the blood of every soldier and officer of mine.

Why did I say that I would do this? Because in October, when I gave the orders to you, you dazzled the whole world, my sons. You carried out my orders in the most splendid way to the extent that Dayan stood here in Sinai facing the 3d Army and wept before the foreign correspondents, saying: We cannot dislodge the Egyptians an inch.

This is Dayan, their defense minister, who was gripped with arrogance and who thought of himself as another Rommel of the desert.

I am saying this because I know what you will do when I give you the order.

What is wrong with this if there is a possibility of achieving a peaceful solution without my sons getting killed? I am not a warmonger and I am not after personal glory. I want to build the country. I do not want a single one of my sons, soldiers and officers, to be killed, as long as we can achieve our aims through diplomatic solutions in which we obtain our full rights.

I told Weizman: If peace can be achieved through a separate solution, I would have signed it with you and declared it to the whole world because my aim is peace, not Sinai.

I also told him: He is hearing me now and the whole world is hearing me--I told him: Even if you conclude peace with Egypt, peace with Syria and peace with Jordan without solving the Palestinian problem, there will be no peace, and after 5 years we will have another war. I am after real peace in a sense that the October war will be the last of the wars. As I told Weizman over a month ago, we are prepared for peace and we are prepared for security, but as far as land and sovereignty are concerned, I am sorry. Clearly we are prepared to give peace; we are prepared to give security; we are prepared to be neighborly. But we are not prepared to give up 1 inch of land or make the slightest concession as far as our sovereignty is concerned, and we shall refuse to do that under all circumstances.

This is the situation which faced the Soviet Union. Because it was unable to say anything, the Soviet Union came out with the idea that we are seeking a separate solution. The Soviet Union pushed Syria and the Palestinians to say the same. I have tried very hard to tell them that we are not seeking a separate solution. Did I say that because I was afraid? No, I am not afraid. You know and the whole world knows, by God, that I do whatever I see is in the interest of Egypt and will fulfill Egypt's historical responsibility. The splendid job you did in October was done not for the sake of Egypt alone, but for every Arab as well. After the October battle every Arab raised his head high. They acknowledge this. Your blood, my children, is what did this. Therefore, we have a responsibility to fulfill.

I told Yasir 'Arafat: Listen, curse as much as you like. I know that the Russians and Syrians have pushed you. But you must know that whether you curse Egypt or not, Egypt knows its historical responsibility toward the Palestinian issue, because it is a fateful Arab issue that involves us, too. I told him: We will pay no attention and will not be bothered.

Correspondents and journalists in Egypt to this day enjoy the protection, security and hospitality of the Egyptians. For 1,000 pounds a month, there are Egyptian journalists in Kuwait or Lebanon willing to defame Egypt. There are printing houses in Kuwait, Lebanon, Paris and London financed by Al-Qadhdhafi and Iraq. The Egyptian writer who slanders his country, Egypt, gets what he wants. There are groups in Paris, London, Iraq, Libya and Egypt--five groups in all. I told the people in the referendum that these groups should be summoned by the socialist prosecutor. What is this lack of responsibility and shamelessness? You slander your country for 1,000 pounds. What kind of money is this? This is a contemptible livelihood. Shame. It is even more impudent for the writer who lives in Egypt to do this. In order for him to earn 1,000 pounds to raise his standard of living, he sends material to slander Egypt. People like this are believed abroad. Libya is still slandering Egypt. Regrettably, many elements of the Kuwaiti press, whose inclinations are known, like to slander Egypt. The elements in Paris are all Marxists who left Egypt; they are all known Marxists. They have all been referred to the socialist prosecutor, together with their articles. There is also the London group and the Iraqi group. The Iraqi group was given a transmitting station by Iraq to slander Egypt.

We said in the referendum that the press is the property of the people. We said that such people and people who send material through foreign correspondents to slander their country must be stopped. Irresponsible people should be restricted.

There should be commitment and ethics. Regrettably, we have a small group which has no ethics. We must teach them ethics. Why? Because we who come from the village know what shame and ethics are. When the country disavows ethics, disaster will befall it. When it adheres to its traditions and nobility and knows what is shameful and knows the values, the country will dazzle the whole world.

I will never forget the period in which every person was afraid to speak in the presence of his brother. A man would be afraid to speak in his own home in the presence of his son lest his son inform the vanguard organization. I will never forget this period. Values were corrupted and were completely lost.

Today, by God, and for the sake of the restoration of values, I will be extremely strict. I do this because anyone who does not want to respond to values is worthless and must be put in his place. This is necessary so our coming generations will enjoy a clean democracy, a clean government, in a clean country, in one family, protected by love, not hate. Never.

Why should the press be owned by the people? Well, my sons, I lived through that period. Many of you, my sons, were not yet grown up when I began working in politics some 35 years ago. I was the contemporary of all these politicians. There is no politician in Egypt, in any old or new party, who does not know me or whom I do not know. I have been in politics for 35 years. There is no journalist who does not know me or whom I do not know, because I have also spent some time working in the press. This is exactly like when I sit down with the drivers at the transport union. I was one of them, that is, a driver, and they all know me in your canal area here. Once I was visiting this area and I ran into a group sitting in Sarabgiyum. I was driving in the car to inspect the land. I met a driver there who was a former colleague and we had worked shifts together. I met him in the coffeehouse there at night and we began to laugh. [applause]

I say the press is the people's property. Why do I say this? With all due respect, and ever since I began working, that is, 35 years ago, the press has not been the people's press, but has belonged to private owners, to parties or to financiers. This is the present practice throughout the world. In Europe, in England, the mother of democracy, the practice for the past 2 years has been for the government to consider ways to help the newspapers. The government gives them money because the newspaper industry is running into difficulties and the country is now poor. Therefore, England's policy will be steered either by the advertisers, who pay for the ads which enable the newspaper to make profit, or by the quarters which finance the newspaper's deficit--and it could be a foreign quarter. In England, the mother of democracy, this practice is being discussed. This is nothing new.

What I am saying is not something odd. This is being discussed at the highest level in the democracies. We will take the lead in this practice, as has been the case with the socialist union and the parties. We said: The state will help the parties. They said: How can this be done and how can the state help the parties? It would no longer be political action.

Well, what is your opinion? I will talk about one of the most authentic democracies--I mean as far as the method of practicing democracy is concerned--namely, the FRG. No one can accuse the FRG of being communist, socialist or any such thing. In the FRG they give DM50 million to the parties so that no foreign states can enter into Germany's party system and recruit spies or agents from the party members.

The parties in 18 states of the democratic Western world openly receive money. This is no hidden affair. No. The parties receive aid. The government is formed by one party, but all the parties--including those which are outside the government and in the opposition--receive aid. But this is one thing, that another. Why is this so? As I have told you, in the press and in the exercising of politics there is a tendency toward polarization, toward the two big poles in the world: the East bloc and the West.

The West is led by the United States and the East bloc is led by the Soviet Union. Each one wants to win the world over to its side. Each has the resources to finance newspapers and magazines. In addition to these two, we have Al-Qadhdhafi and Iraq to contend with. A week ago, Al-Qadhdhafi was asked what he had done with $350 million, but he refused to answer. Iraq has built a radio station to attack us and to attack Syria as well. The station was originally installed to attack Syria but we are now included as well. The Iraqis brought Egyptians to curse us from the station. Al-Qadhdhafi is spending hundreds of millions of dollars to attack us. I regret to tell you that he is openly paying Egyptian journalists in Paris and indirectly paying journalists in Egypt. This is why I say that the press cannot become the property of individuals, because it would then become the property of the owner of the paper. No owner of a paper has yet been born who will be given the opportunity to shape the Egyptian people the way he wants. The papers must be the property of the people. I will not authorize the owner of an advertising company to publish a paper and run it the way he wants because the company will provide the paper's profits and compensate its losses. This is why I said that the press is the property of the people.

When the leftist party emerged it published its own newspaper without obtaining the permission of the Publications Department, the Interior Ministry or anybody. After we recognized the leftist party in accordance with the parties law, the leftist party went ahead and printed its paper. The paper came out in the form of a leaflet full of filth and lies. The filth was manifested in the attacks on and defamation of people. The lies were manifested in the impudent and arrogant way in which the facts were distorted in broad daylight. When a paper takes an irrefutable fact and says that this is not a fact but it is so and so, then this is an act of arrogance. The press is not the property of the parties. It is the property of the people here in Egypt. This is an experiment which the entire world will follow in the future. We are not bothered by the fact that nobody else in the world is doing what we are doing in this regard. The Soviet Union and others follow an extreme method. We fall exactly in the center. We say that the press is the property of the people and that the guidance instruments influencing the people must become the property of the people, and we must govern with them as a state of institutions and a People's Assembly.

There were the four points which were put to the public referendum. These were the three elements which had to go. I was 1 year late in dealing with them, but I had hoped that the national spirit and the family spirit would prevail and that we would get along. However, I never approved of the return of the pre-1952 politicians. It would have been possible to object to the elected leader of the New Al-Wafd Party, but I feared that an objection to his name would be interpreted as an objection to the party. We let matters go and the party went along its way, but in time of seriousness we must reassess ourselves as a people and pause and ask. Who is with us in the march, and how is the practice of democracy proceeding?

We must eliminate everything which impedes the practice of pure democracy, because we intend, as I told you, to correct the democratic course without detention camps, prisons, extraordinary measures or martial law. A good example of this is the taxation law which I returned to the People's Assembly. Why did I return it to the People's Assembly? There are signs of luxury in the country. They are the result of good incomes and not because half of the people in the country are thieves, as they alleged. There are indeed Egyptian factions consisting of very simple people like scrap merchants, butchers or shoemakers who are building apartments.

There is a class of middlemen who benefit from the economic open-door policy. Well, I have returned the taxation law to the People's Assembly because of all the manifestations of luxury. A person may want to ride in a car that is 8 meters long. I have no objection; I do not bear grudges, my sons. I harbor no rancor and I want everyone in Egypt to have one or two cars and a villa. I never bear a grudge. On the contrary, as you will see in all of our new programs and in the new socieities and elsewhere, we are turning toward this prosperity, which means enabling the individual to prove himself. But as he proves himself, he should give the state its due. Why is this? Because along with proving himself and riding in an 8-meter-long car, no man or woman in Egypt will sleep as long as he or she remains uninsured against being incapacitated, getting sick or old or dying.

If a worker paid on a daily basis is incapacitated for work, he will not earn his daily pay. Therefore, he and his children will starve. No, I say; Every man and woman in Egypt--and the program is in progress, my sons--must receive a pension in case of incapacity, sickness old age or death. The circle is on its way to completion--and this is what made me return the taxation law to the People's Assembly. Concerning the affluent people, I cite as an example the English lords--and England is a capitalist state, not a socialist state as we are. Nevertheless, there is no lord who can afford to live in his castle or mansion. They have converted them all into museums. They admit people into these castles for five piasters to see these museums so that their owners can earn an income. Why is this so? Because the Internal Revenue Service taxes them for owning such great castles. The Internal Revenue Service makes them pay for this scenery because justice dictates that all the people should shoulder the burden in an equal manner.

Well, there is now an imbalance in incomes. Certain members of the lower classes now have large incomes, such as the tinsmith, the taxi driver, the mason and others. They all earn 5 to 6 pounds daily. I am not criticizing these people. Never, I mean they are earning the money legally, but they should pay me taxes so that I can insure them when they become sick or incapacitated. Well, now they earn 5 pounds daily. But if they get sick, they will not earn their daily income. Then they will find me and will get the insurance to which they had contributed. I want these persons to participate with us in the insurance scheme. However, these persons have suffered from privation for a long time. Let them enjoy life a little. But as for the other incomes, I say never; I will not allow such incomes to evade taxation while any form of luxury whatsoever exists. If someone wants to ride in an 8-meter-long car, then let him pay me 800 pounds for it. This is necessary. This is how things are. If he does not want to pay, he is free not to; let him then buy a smaller car. In other words, these things must be distributed in a sound manner so that, as I have said, everyone will prove himself and will build for himself, his children and the coming generations while he gives the state its due. Furthermore, we constitute a society that offers mutual guarantees and cooperates. This is what the referendum was about.

Therefore, they went to the universities and told them there: A purge is upcoming at the universities. What is the reason? The socialist prosecutor will write a report about you and they will purge the universities.

Perhaps you have heard about my meeting with the Alexandria University professor who, regrettably, is mentally deranged. This is known; he is mentally abnormal. However, he caused a great deal of confusion for the university and for the faculty.

Last 18 and 19 January he was caught redhanded and he revealed himself. The case was closed. He had been removed from the university before I assumed power. When I took the reins of government, I reinstated him in the university, because I said: All these things are over. But he continued to behave in the same way. When I reinstated him, he sent me a letter in the form of a long poem. I showed the letter to the university faculty when they were with me in Alexandria last year. I told them: This person who has engaged in slander and in similar things has sent me a letter. Here it is in his own handwriting and it bears his signature. He sent me the letter after I had reinstated him in the university and after I assumed power. As I told you, he stayed at the university until 18 and 19 January, when he revealed himself. He was arrested redhanded. The case was closed.

The Alexandria University professors and all of us, as Egyptians and Arabs, like being humored. For example, we all know that a university professor like this one is in an unsound state of mind. Nevertheless, no one tries to put him in his place because we are more inclined toward courtesy. I say that from now on this must not happen. Everyone hears me. I told you a year ago about things which were fulfilled today. But what I am telling you today will not take a year to be implemented. No, it will be implemented immediately as from today. Actually, it was put into effect after the results of the referendum became known.

The staff of the Alexandria University came to me and told me that this professor is under arrest. Do you know that he is guilty? They said: Yes. Do you know that he is insane? They said: Yes. But the letter he sent me was full of praise. After he was arrested and sent to jail, he sent me a second letter expressing regret. I told them: Here is his second letter. It is in the nature of things here that each group tries to humor the other. As of today, this must end.

I told them then: Well, I will release him from jail, and I will sidestep all formalities and hand him to you now. I told them: You are responsible for him.

I tell this story because I want to say that the lack of responsibility, the undermining of values and the lack of knowledge about what is shameful will not be permitted in any establishment. Perhaps some people told the university professors that I planned to purge the university staff. Unfortunately there are some university professors who do not deserve to be put in charge of our future generations. But these are a very small minority. Nevertheless, I say this before you, because I know they are going to hear it. Every establishment must be responsible for its staff. The rule will be that if anyone commits an offense, whether in the university, union or a place of work, we will say to those responsible: This has been committed by this man. You sit down and decide what to do about him. If they do not decide and they resort to courtesy and flattery and to dodging their responsibility, we will take measures. No decision or measure will be taken in secret. No. Everything will be done openly.

We will intervene and take charge in order to bring that man to account. We will do it openly because Egypt, with its nobility, values and faith, is stronger than any one of these. Egypt's splendor must return to it. This splendor is derived from immortality, values, nobility, faith and tenacity, which no invader of colonialist has been able to undermine throughout the centuries. All the colonialists were assimilated with the Egyptians, whereas the Egytpians were never assimilated.

As of this day, I say that there must be no dodging of responsibility. Every establishment must assume responsibility for its staff. I will not permit the dodging of responsibility or the undermining of the values, tenets or faith of this people.

Every citizen in Egypt must know that whatever the circumstances may be, all honorable citizens--and they are more than 99 percent of the population--must rest assured that Almighty God has taught me to keep my word and not be an oppressor of mankind. Let them all know that I do not change my word, even after 10 years, and that any citizen who violates his commitment to Egypt will be brought to account.

The second thing they should know is that I will never be an oppressor of mankind at all. I hate oppression. Therefore, 99 percent of the Egyptian people must be reassured about their dignity, freedom, security and the supremacy of the law--all this and even more. This will also apply to the remaining 1 percent about which I have spoken to you. I do not change my mind. If this 1 percent is continuing to do what it has been doing since 1973 and has not changed, then I will tell it: No. This is your record for the past 5 years. I will isolate it from the path of pure democracy and from the pure procession of the Egyptian people. [words indistinct]

We thank God that such people, whom we should correct and put in their proper place, do not even amount to 1 percent.

Before I leave you, I would like to say again that my meetings with you--my meetings with the 3d Army as representative of all your armed forces--constitute turning points in the history of Egypt. In all love and in all pride, my sons, the procession will continue to be clean, pure and strong as Almighty God wanted it to be, so that all of us may achieve for ourselves, for our children and for the coming generations a country enjoying prosperity, dignity, prestige, loftiness and all the good qualities you have strived for by your splendid performance in October and by your magnificent steadfastness in Kibrit. May God grant you success. Peace be upon you.

AL-JAMASI MEETS WITH REPORTERS IN WASHINGTON

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[Text] Washington, 8 June--Deputy Prime Minister and War Minister Gen Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi has affirmed that the Egyptian armed forces support all the decisions made by President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat in the past and will support all his decisions in the future. He added that the Egyptian Army does not and never will involve itself in politics.

General al-Jamasi told reporters today that the Egyptian armed forces supported President as-Sadat when he declared the October war and they carried out the war order. The armed forces, he added, also supported the president when he embarked on his peace initiative and went to Jerusalem.

The Egyptian war minister emphasized that the Israeli people want peace, but the Israeli Government is placing many obstacles in the way of peace in the Middle East. He said Egypt does not say that it likes Israeli Defense Minister Weizman and hates Prime Minister Menahem Begin. Egypt, he said, only deals with the Israeli Government and does not differentiate between individuals because it does not care to do so.

In his statement to reporters during a meeting arranged by the U.S. journal FOREIGN POLICY, the Egyptian deputy prime minister and war minister said that his talks with U.S. Secretary of Defense Harold Brown dealt with U.S.-Egyptian military cooperation. He added that he discussed the (?F-5) warplanes deal with Brown and his aides. He said that he hopes that U.S.-Egyptian military relations will grow in the future. The relations between the two countries in this field are quite new, he said.

He pointed out that for a long time in the past there was no cooperation between Egypt and the United States. Egypt, he said, is quite satisfied with what it has already obtained from the United States, but it is only one step. I hope the situation will improve in the future and I hope Egypt will be able to ask for more arms.

Answering questions by reporters about President as-Sadat's recent remarks during his meeting with the officers and men of the 2nd and 3rd armies in the Suez Canal area, General al-Jamasi explained that he asked the Egyptian armed forces to continue their training to improve their military capabilities. He said that the president told the Egyptian armed forces that Egypt deals with Israel with an open heart and an open mind. He added that President as-Sadat is the man who introduced the peace initiative and we will give it every chance to succeed. He stressed that the peace initiative has not failed so far and that it is not appropriate to talk about other possibilities or alternatives.

General al-Jamasi said that the Egyptian armed forces do not play and never will play any political role. Since 1971, he said, the armed forces have behaved as professional soldiers and will continue to do so.

General al-Jamasi emphasized that the main problem in the Arab-Israeli conflict is the Palestinian problem. He stressed that Egypt is not seeking a separate peace, because such a peace will not end the conflict in the Middle East. Egypt, he said, wants an overall settlement that will bring peace for all the parties--"Palestinians, Syrians" and all the people of the area.

He added that the United States wields influence in the area as far as promoting peace is concerned, and we are satisfied with what it is doing.

The commander in chief of the Egyptian armed forces also said that the people of Israel want peace, but their government is putting obstacles in the way of peace. He said Egypt is not concerned with the differences between the Israeli leaders and is not (?concerned with individuals).

General al-Jamasi affirmed that Egypt is not opposed to the idea of a military pact between the United States and Israel as a guarantee for Israel under a comprehensive settlement. Al-Jamasi reaffirmed that Egypt is not prepared to lease bases to foreign states and will accept no Israeli settlements on Egyptian soil.

Answering a question regarding President as-Sadat's announcement that he will announce a surprise on 23 July, General al-Jamasi said if we reveal the surprise now it will no longer be a surprise.

On the renewal of the Sinai second disengagement agreement which expires in October, he said: Let us wait until the time comes. The renewal of agreements, he said, requires discussions between the parties and the United States.

On the possibilities of failure for the peace initiative and what has been said to the effect that President as-Sadat may resign, General al-Jamasi said: I assure you that President as-Sadat will be there and be prepared to make the difficult decisions at the appropriate time. He added that what has been said about President as-Sadat's resignation or nonresignation is of no consequence, because all Egypt supports President as-Sadat's initiative and we have faith in the future.

Answering other questions, General al-Jamasi said that Egypt considers the problem of the Horn of Africa to be an extremely important strategic matter because of the increasing Soviet influence. He said that an Ethiopian threat to Sudan under Soviet pressure would constitute a threat to Egypt, and this is why Egypt is concerned about this matter.

He said that Egypt has helped Sudan by supplying it with some guns and technical aid. The arms which Egypt sent to Somalia, he said, are not American arms.

General al-Jamasi also announced that Egypt has supplied Zaire with some artillery pieces. This necessitates sending Egyptian officers and NCO's to train the Zairian troops. He said Egypt supports Zaire at this critical stage and is prepared to participate with the OAU in supporting Zaire.

On Libya, General al-Jamasi said that last summer Egypt had to resist Libya's sabotage operations. The situation is now calm on the borders and Egypt hopes to have good relations with Libya and the other states, he said.

He added that it is natural for inter-Arab relations to be fine at times and suffer some differences at times.

General al-Jamasi will meet this evening with the U.S. House Armed Services Committee and later with the members of the Senate Armed Services Committee.

AL-JUMHURIYAH ON ISRAELI REACTION TO AS-SADAT'S SPEECH

NC0900914Y Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 9 Jun 78 NC

[From the press review]

[Text] The paper AL-JUMHURIYAH writes that the speeches that As-Sadat made during his visit to the canal zone have helped clarify and crystallize Egypt's attitude to the Arab-Israeli conflict. These speeches have also spotlighted and specified the Egyptian demands, as President as-Sadat has been announcing up to the present, ever since his speech in the Israeli Knesset, and even before he made that speech.

In spite of this, Israel's initial reactions to these speeches indicate that the Israelis and those who support them intend to make a fuss about these speeches in order to raise doubts about Egypt's intentions, its peaceful aims and its concern for achieving a just and lasting peace.

The paper adds that some Israeli sources have stated that President as-Sadat's speech on the possibility of war with Israel if it does not change its attitude toward the peace initiative constitutes an obstacle to peace. Even if we, for the sake of argument, assume that this deception is true--although deception can never be true--we ask: How many obstacles have the Israelis placed in the path of peace by means of their statements during the preceding months concerning the possibilities of war? No one, however capable of deceiving and misleading he may be, can allege that the man who carried out the peace initiative is himself placing obstacles in the path of peace. This is contrary to logic and commonsense, unless Israel understands peace in a limited and peculiar way which contradicts and is different from its real sense. This is the fact behind Israel's deceptions and misleadings. Israel understands peace in a peculiar way which differs not only from the Arab's understanding of it, but from the whole world's--which now agrees that no peace will come to this region without Israeli withdrawal and the guarantee of the Palestinian peoples' rights. This is real and everlasting peace, which cannot be hidden or distorted by lies and deceptions.

JARIDAT MISR SAYS LABOR MOVEMENT TO BE PURGED

LD081456Y Cairo JARIDAT MISR in Arabic 6 Jun 78 p 1 LD

[Text] JARIDAT MISR has learned that the workers grassroots have begun demanding the disciplinary committee set up by the General Federation of Workers Unions to speed up the purging of the labor movement in accordance with the provisions of the social safety law and the principles which the people approved unanimously in the recent referendum.

The boards of trade unions have begun preparing lists of the names of suspect elements to submit to the disciplinary committee preparatory to expelling these elements from positions influencing the workers grassroots.

The General Assembly of the General Trade Union of Commerce Workers has decided to expel Fathi Mahmud Mustafa, the former president of the union and general secretary of the Arab Federation of Commerce Workers, and 'Abd al-'Azim al-Mughrabi, general secretary of the General Federation of Labor, from their trade unionist responsibilities in the commerce workers union because of their declared affiliation to communism.

SECURITY FORCES UNCOVER NAMES OF TERRORISTS

LD081452Y Cairo JARIDAT MISR in Arabic 6 Jun 78 p 1 LD

[Text] The JARIDAT MISR correspondent has learned that the Egyptian security organs have learned the names of most of the members of the terrorist group led by Abu Nidal [Hasan al-Banna] from Iraq and that the security organs have passed this information to certain Arab countries, particularly to Kuwait. A meeting took place in Cairo between Kuwait and Egyptian officials to pass on this information.

AL-ANBA': PRO-SOVIET IRAQI ARMY OFFICERS DISMISSED

NC081320Y Doha QNA in Arabic 0840 GMT 8 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Kuwait, 8 June--Quoting informed sources in Paris, the Kuwaiti paper AL-ANBA' says today that the Iraqi authorities have recently dismissed all officers who are proteges of Moscow and who occupied high posts in the Defense Ministry and the Iraqi military command. The dismissals came in the wake of the discovery and foiling of a communist plot to overthrow the current regime in Iraq. About 1,000 communists were arrested and 40 of them were executed.

Quoting these sources, the paper adds that the dismissed officers opposed the policy which Iraq had recently begun of diversifying the sources of arms so as not to be entirely dependent on Soviet arms. AL-ANBA' further says that Iraq has recently concluded an important military deal with Brazil. According to the deal, Iraq will buy 200 Brazilian tanks, which will be handed over very soon.

Quoting reliable diplomatic sources in Paris, the paper says that Baghdad told Moscow that to revive the dialog between the Communist Party and the Iraqi Ba'th Party within the framework of the ruling National Front in Baghdad, the present leadership of the Iraqi Communist Party must be changed and that its leaders and main elements must be deported from Iraq. This, the paper says, took place during contacts between the two sides and following Soviet efforts to ease the tension from which Iraqi-Soviet relations suffered following the discovery of this plot.

SADDAM HUSAYN MEETS WITH PDRY FINANCE MINISTER

JN080845Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Baghdad, 8 June--RCC Vice Chairman Saddam Husayn has received a written message from PDRY Prime Minister 'Ali Nasir Muhammad dealing with relations between the two fraternal countries.

The message was conveyed to Saddam Husayn by PDRY Finance Minister Fadl Muhsin 'Abdallah during their meeting here today.

During the meeting, which was attended by Foreign Ministry Under Secretary 'Abd al-Husayn al-Jamali, a review was conducted on the subject of bilateral relations.

The PDRY finance minister arrived in Baghdad a few days ago to participate in the meetings of the 31st session of the Arab Economic Unity Council.

PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE ADDRESSES UNGA SESSION

JN0905402Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0400 GMT 9 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Dr Hazim Musaybah, Jordan's permanent representative to the United Nations, has stated that the disputes in the Middle East and Africa will lead to the outbreak of a third world war. Addressing the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament, Dr Musaybah said that the tragedy of the Palestinian people, their eviction and the occupation of their land is due to the Israeli military arsenal. This arsenal, Dr Musaybah added, is menacing the whole world.

Dr Musaybah has appealed to the countries of the world to urge Israel to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories and to restore the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

On the issue of disarmament, Dr Musaybah said this UN General Assembly session is an historic opportunity to search for adequate ways and means to save the world from destruction and extinction.

CROWN PRINCE HASAN REPLIES TO HUSAYN ON 'ALI

JN0814402Y Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1100 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince Hasan has replied [to Husayn's message] with the following message: I present my great esteem, my deep love and my eternal and true loyalty to Your Majesty. I have received, with great thanks, Your Majesty's message which contained your ideas and recommendations on the way to guarantee and clarify the march and transfer of the historic responsibility of our Hashemite family with firm steps and clarity of vision generation after generation. As I am honored to bear the responsibility of crown prince for you and am honored to be linked to Your Majesty by ties of brotherhood, by all patriotic and family ties and by ties of my belief in your leadership and in your person and your message, I do feel, at this moment, all respect and appreciation for your sound and wise decision.

I clearly see the wisdom of your guidance, your farsightedness and your loyal and exemplary concern for the future of the homeland, its stability, strength and unity as well as for the continuation of its mission and that of the Hashemite family, which you are preserving, leading and directing.

I will always consider myself a soldier of the Hashemite family and an honest servant of your mission and cause. I will exert all my efforts and capabilities to the service of beloved Jordan and the Arab nation. As long as I live, I will never forget the trust which you have placed in me and your care for me during all of my life. You have surrounded me with love, guidance and care. When you crowned this great confidence by appointing me your crown prince, you bound me with an historic and sacred responsibility. Your Majesty's continuing to stand by me, your care of me and your guidance of my steps has made me stronger in shouldering this responsibility.

While greeting your sound and prudent decision of recommending the adoption of the necessary constitutional procedures at a suitable time in order to carry out your recommendation concerning the crown prince, I pledge to preserve this gracious directive and implement it for the sake of the homeland and the future, anticipating--together with the nation--in 'Ali ibn Husayn, the good of the homeland and success in serving the historic mission for which we struggle with our souls and hearts.

I will exert my utmost efforts to provide care and love for 'Ali ibn Husayn, to whom we wish all good for the homeland and the nation. At the same time, I--together with the people and the nation--wish you a long life and continued success so that your presence may remain engulfing us all, and may God grant the homeland the blessing of your long stay. May God preserve and protect you, sir.

Amman, 7 June 1978. [end of letter]

Copies of the two exchanged letters will be kept in the Royal Hashemite Court, the Prime Ministry, the People's Assembly and the National Consultative Council.

GAZA MAYOR INTERVIEWED ON RELATIONS WITH ISRAEL

JN0408488Y Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 4 Jun 78 pp 1,15 JN

[Nabil 'Amr report]

[Excerpts] Al-Hajj Rashad ash-Shawwa, mayor of occupied Gaza, yesterday exposed a dangerous Zionist conspiracy against the Gaza Strip. The mayor said that this conspiracy is no less dangerous than previous Zionist conspiracies to Judaize the occupied Arab territory and to annex it to the so-called state of Israel.

The mayor said, in an exclusive statement to AD-DUSTUR, that one main proof of Israel's aggression is the decision to change the name of the Gaza sector to the "Gaza Province" [Liwa's Ghazzah] and to use this name in all official dealings concerning the sector and its people.

Speaking about the economic situation in the sector and the higher taxation being imposed on the Gaza people, Mayor ash-Shawwa, who is leaving Amman tomorrow, Monday, for Beirut, said that since 1967 Israel has been trying to merge the sector's economy with the Israeli economy and to link the sector's imports to Israeli imports to the extent that the Gaza citizen is now at the mercy of the Israeli economy.

Ash-Shawwa continued: Regarding taxation, the occupation authorities recently increased the Value Added Tax from 8 to 12 percent despite the fact that the people in the occupied territory in general have denounced and opposed this tax. However, the occupation authorities pay no attention to anyone when carrying out their plans.

Asked about the nature and purpose of his current tour, the mayor said that the main purpose of this tour is to impress on the officials in the Arab countries that the primary duty of all Arabs, whether in the government or otherwise, is to support the existence of the Arabs in the occupied territory so they can continue to resist, especially since the just and lasting solution sought by the Arabs and all of us seems far away.

Mayor ash-Shawwa said that Saudi Arabia has graciously agreed to consider the city of Gaza as the twin city of Riyadh and has allocated aid amounting to $84 million to be paid over a period of 5 years to develop Gaza and insure such basic services as water, electricity, artesian wells and roads for the citizens. Therefore, after Beirut I will go to Riyadh, because I believe that the formalities for the first payment have been finalized.

Mayor ash-Shawwa concluded his statement by saying that the question of Palestine does not concern just the Palestinians. It is an Arab cause. Therefore, we should work for the unity of Arab ranks to liberate the land and restore the holy places.

CARTER'S HUMAN RIGHTS POLICY IN ESMAIL CASE QUESTIONED

JN090755Y Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 9 Jun p 2 JN

[Editorial: 'An Open Letter to Jimmy Carter']

[Text] Dear Mr President:

The conviction of American citizen Sami Esmail by an Israeli court is a matter that deserves to be brought more closely to the attention of the President of the United States for several reasons, which we hope you will ponder with great care. The fact that you have personally carried out a campagin to focus on the fundamental human rights of people all over the world is only slightly related to the case of Sami Esmail. What is more important is that Israel is making a mockery of the legal and humanitarian and egalitarian principles of the country of which you are President, and of which Sami Esmail is a natural-born citizen. He is in an Israeli jail, and if he could write to you, he would probably raise some of the following points for you to think about:

1. Is it part of America's commitment to the principles of individual liberty that the FBI should provide information to a foreign country which is then used to arrest, convict and imprison an American citizen for something that is not a crime in the United States?

2. Is it part of America's commitment to the supremacy of law and the noble principle embodied in the American concept of the due process of law that an American citizen can be convicted in a foreign court of law on the strength of an alleged "confession" that was signed after obvious psychological pressures bordering on torture, and that was signed only after the accused was told that he could not see his dying father unless he signed the confession?

3. Is it part of America's commitment to the individual's right to free speech and association to have an American-born citizen tried and convicted on the strength of his belonging to a group, as opposed to being convicted for doing something harmful to his accusers? Is this not a case of a person being jailed for his political beliefs instead of for his actions? Is this not the sort of thing that Americans find so abhorrent when it happens in the Soviet Union?

It is not with a great deal of pleasure, Mr President, that we bring these points to your attention. But it is with a sense of urgency, and not only for the sake of Sami Esmail, but for the sake of your country, of your very national principles that are now sitting in an Israeli jail. The trial of Sami Esmail has ended, but the trial of the United States of America has just begun.

We want you to know, Mr President, that there are millions of people throughout the world who believe in the same principles of human rights that you do, and it is in cases such as this one--where one of your own citizens has come up against the denial of human rights by one of your closest allies--that your resolve is fully tested. We hope you will not let your friends down; or your citizens; or your constitution; or your God; or yourself.

BEIRUT RADIO REPORTS ISRAELI ATTACK IN SOUTH

NC0910462Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 9 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Citing an Israeli military spokesman, news agency dispatches today report that Israeli forces carried out a military operation against Palestinian positions in southern Lebanon last night. The news agency reports say that the attack was against positions in Tuffahta, Al-'Aqiliyah and An-Nasiriyah, south of Az-Zahrani. The Israeli spokesman announced that two Israeli soldiers had been killed and eight others wounded. There are no reports about the losses that occurred in the areas that were attacked.

INA Report

JN0909000Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 0838 GMT 9 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Beirut, 9 June--The Zionist enemy has seriously escalated his provocations in southern Lebanon, just 4 days before the time he set for withdrawing his forces from the occupied southern area on 13 June. Late last night, the enemy landed a commando squad of Zionist naval forces in the southern coastal town of As-Sarafand, 10 km from Sidon. This squad committed acts of murder, demolition and sabotage in the town, which is located a few kilometers from the last position of the Syrian deterrent force near the Az-Zahrani refinery.

An INA correspondent in southern Lebanon reports that the enemy forces killed or injured about 30 citizens in the town and demolished many houses before withdrawing by boat. The correspondent said that heavy artillery from gunboats paved the way for the landing operation in As-Sarafand and nearby areas. Enemy planes overflew the main towns in the south all last night and lit the sky with flares. The INA correspondent reports that the sounds of explosions and machineguns were heard until dawn between 'Adlun and As-Sarafand.

Reports disseminated by the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine say that a Zionist commando force backed by artillery and air force attacked the coastal town of Al-'Aqiliyah near As-Sarafand at dawn today. These reports say that the Joint forces confronted the Zionist force and clashed with it for over an hour, while Zionist gunboats were shelling the area heavily and the planes were firing flares.

In a communique released a short while ago, the sources of the Palestinian revolution general command stated that enemy fighter planes have supported the Zionist special force with intensive fire. The communique added that the enemy was compelled to withdraw his troops following the heavy losses inflicted on them by the Joint forces. Enemy helicopters were seen removing enemy casualties. The enemy radio admitted that two elements of its troops were killed and eight others wounded.

The INA correspondent who moved to the coast of As-Sarafand has reported that the enemy troops which participated in the landing at 0215 today were estimated to comprise one complete battalion. The correspondent added that the battalion entered Al-'Aqiliyah village east of As-Sarafand and managed to gather the civilians in one house. Some time later, the battalion was confronted by the Joint forces and forced to withdraw.

In a report on the operation, the correspondent said that he saw traces of blood along the 500-meter length of the coastal road used by the Zionist force. Quoting some civilians, the correspondent said that they saw Zionist military uniforms stained with blood.

The correspondent added that the joint forces managed to hit one of the enemy boats that participated in the operation. He said that the boat is still offshore.

Quoting officers of the joint forces, the correspondent said that the joint forces killed or wounded 25 Zionist elements and captured 1 other. The body of one of those killed is still in the battlefield.

The INA correspondent reports that 4 fighters of the joint forces were martyred and 10 others injured in the Zionist aggression. He said that these martyrs are Mu'in as-Salti, 'Abd al-Latif Barakah, Muhammad Furayhah and Nasir Subhi Khalil.

A communique issued by the Palestinian resistance command at noon today said that in their attack on the Lebanese coast the Zionist enemy used groups of commandos and a number of landing boats supported by gunboats and a destroyer. The communique said that the destroyer shelled the shore with intensive fire to prevent supplies from reaching the joint forces, while helicopters flew over the area under the protection of fighter-bombers to evacuate many Zionist casualties. It said further that the operation, which started at 0215 today and ended at 0345, failed to achieve its objectives. The Zionist groups withdrew under intensive fire from the sea and air, having sustained heavy casualties.

SIILASVUO MEETS WITH DEFENSE MINISTRY OFFICIALS

NC0911592Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 9 Jun 78 NC

[Text] The general coordinator of the UN emergency forces, General Siilasvuo, arrived in Beirut at 1130 today and went immediately to the Defense Ministry, where he held a meeting with the army commander, Staff Brig Gen Victor Khuri, and a number of command officers. Arrangements pertaining to the Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon were discussed at the meeting.

General Siilasvuo then went to the Foreign Ministry, where he met with Minister of Foreign and Expatriates Affairs and Defense Fu'ad Butrus. The army commander, UNIFIL Commander General Erskine, General Cuq and Chief of Staff Colonel Turbay attended the meeting.

Meanwhile, Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss met at noon today with the commander of the Arab deterrent forces, Lt Col Sami al-Khatib, who briefed him on the latest developments of the security situation, particularly the situation in the south.

FOREIGN MINISTER BUTRUS MEETS WITH FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS

NC0818132Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 8 Jun 78 NC

[Text] Foreign and Defense Minister Fu'ad Butrus was the guest of honor today at the weekly luncheon held by the director general of the Ministry of Information, Dr Charles Rizq, for the world news agencies and senior foreign correspondents in Lebanon. Minister Butrus was asked many questions on various issues.

A foreign correspondent asked Minister Butrus why the government delayed sending Lebanese Army units to the south, as was mentioned in the papers today. Minister Butrus replied: This is not true. The government made a decision to send Lebanese Army units to the south, but there are military preparations which must be made before implementation. Nothing has taken place in the past 48 hours to prompt the government to change its position on this matter.

Asked whether it is possible to say when the army will be sent to southern Lebanon, Minister Butrus said: It is not a matter of months or weeks, it is a matter of days. There are no obstacles to justify delay. It is a matter of days, as I said.

Asked whether the decision to send the army to southern Lebanon includes the Arab deterrent forces, Minister Butrus said: The plan is to send Lebanese Army forces to the south to take up positions extending from the Litani River to the southern border--the operating area of the UN forces.

The minister was asked: You have met with the French ambassador. Did you discuss the withdrawal of the French UN force from Lebanon? He replied: I am not aware that the French Government wants to withdraw the French UN contingent from Lebanon.

Asked how the Lebanese Army will deal with the militias in southern Lebanon, Minister Butrus said: This is a matter for the army command, not for the defense minister.

Asked whether Israel has set preconditions for its withdrawal from southern Lebanon, Minister Butrus said: During his last visit to Lebanon, General Siilasvuo did not convey to us any Israeli conditions. He did tell us of some Israeli points of view regarding certain points. Minister Butrus denied that such points of view constituted Israeli preconditions.

Asked whether an understanding has been reached with the Palestinians regarding a Palestinian armed presence in the south and whether the agreements with the Palestinians are still valid, Minister Butrus said: The Cairo Agreement was dealt with in a statement made by the president of the republic in the cabinet about 2 weeks ago. Lebanon's position on this agreement has not changed since then. As for the reference to negotiations with the PLO, I am not responsible for these negotiations. The talks which the prime minister is conducting with the Palestinians deal with many subjects. As far as I know, there is nothing new which can be announced now.

Asked to explain the government's position on the return of the Palestinians to southern Lebanon, Minister Butrus said: First, the government must impose its authority in the south. Then it will see whether it can accept what you mentioned. Stability and calm must prevail in the south.

Asked when he expects General Siilasvuo to arrive in Beirut and whether the Israelis will actually withdraw next Tuesday, Minister Butrus said: General Siilasvuo will return to Lebanon before next Sunday. As for the Israeli withdrawal, we were told that the withdrawal will take place, but I personally cannot be absolutely certain. I hope nothing will happen to delay the withdrawal or to give the Israelis an excuse not to withdraw.

Asked whether negotiations have taken place regarding the movement of the Arab deterrent forces beyond their present positions in the south, Minister Butrus said: I was asked this question 3 days ago, and I answered that no contact has taken place in this respect.

Asked what Lebanon will do with regard to what Israel calls the good fence, Minister Butrus said: When the state imposes its authority in the area, it will make the appropriate decision and take positions which are based on law, the sovereignty of Lebanon and the agreements signed with various states.

Asked whether the joint truce supervision committee will be revived, Minister Butrus said: The joint truce supervision committee worked in the past few months, and this is proof that it exists.

AN-NAHAR: GOVERNMENT POSTPONES SENDING ARMY TO SOUTH

JN0817052 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] The Lebanese Government has decided to postpone sending units of the Lebanese regular army to the south. This was reported today by the Lebanese newspaper AN-NAHAR, which added that the decision was taken on Monday after a meeting attended by President Sarkis, Prime Minister al-Huss and Foreign Minister Butrus.

Today, Prime Minister Salim al-Huss met separately with PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat and 'Ali ash-Sha'ir, the Saudi ambassador in Beirut. The meetings dealt with the latest Lebanese developments in general and the situation in the south in particular.

The newspaper AL-WATAN, organ of the Lebanese Nationalist Movement, said today that Maj Sa'd Haddad, commander of the rightist forces in southern Lebanon, yesterday made a secret visit to the Lebanese Ministry of Defense and met with the army commander and the chief of the Deuxieme Bureau. The newspaper said that Haddad informed the army command of the terms set by the Zionist enemy for its withdrawal from the south. These are the same terms which were sent by the enemy through Ensio Siilasvuo, general coordinator of the UN emergency forces in the region. The terms stipulate the stationing in the south of observation posts for the enemy, putting the Lebanese forces which will be sent to the south under Sa'd Haddad's command and rejecting the Cairo Agreement in all its forms.

The newspaper said that Haddad refused to heed the orders of the command and resign from the Lebanese Army. Despite his open dealing with the Zionist forces, Haddad and his followers are still on the payroll of the Lebanese Army.

PRIME MINISTER AL-HUSS, PLO LEADER MEET 8 JUNE

NC0813212 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 8 Jun 78 NC

[Text] The questions of the Israeli withdrawal, the removal of any obstacle which may delay this withdrawal, and the bolstering of the government's measures to restore Lebanese authority and sovereignty in southern Lebanon were the subjects of discussion at a meeting held at noon today between Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss and PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. The meeting was held at the office of the minister of tourism and was also attended by Interior Minister Dr Salah Salman, Public Works and Tourism Minister Amin al-Bizri, PLO UN representative Basil 'Aql, Abu al-Walid, PLO official spokesman 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar and PLO Executive Committee member Talal Naji.

The discussion also dealt with the results of the contacts and consultations which have taken place on various levels with a view to bolstering the presence of the Lebanese authority and facilitating the task of the UN peace-keeping forces in southern Lebanon.

COMMUNIST PARTY LEADER ASSAILS AS-SADAT MEASURES

JN061848Y Baghdad INA in Arabic 1810 GMT 6 Jun 78 JN

[Excerpt] Beirut, 6 June--George Hawi, assistant secretary general of the Central Committee of the Lebanese Communist Party, has condemned the oppressive measures taken by the As-Sadat regime against democratic liberties and the opposition parties in Egypt. In a statement issued today, Hawi said that the As-Sadat regime is passing through an advanced stage of crisis after As-Sadat's overt renunciation of the achievements of the 23 July Revolution and his treasonous visit to occupied Jerusalem.

CHAMBER OF DEPUTIES SPEAKER LEAVES FOR PARIS

NC091200Y Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 9 Jun 78 NC

[Text] At noon today, Kamil al-As'ad, the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, left Beirut for Paris on a private visit. He is accompanied by Deputy Yusuf Hammud and Ihsan Abu Khalil, the director general of the Chamber of Deputies.

AL-ASAD SPEAKS TO LONDON'S FINANCIAL TIMES REPORTERS

LD090658Y London THE FINANCIAL TIMES in English 9 Jun 78 p 3 LD

[By Alain Cass and Roger Matthews in Damascus]

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad tackles an interview in much the same way as he governs. He sits very still, rarely gesturing, the even tone of replies wafting across the thickly carpeted floor, boken only by the occasional cracking of his finger joints.

His statements, like his policies, are invariably qualified. No path is explored without all the side-turnings being carefully sign-posted. The questions he is not preapred to answer, like the policies he prefers to carry out by stealth, are carefuly wrapped in a web of distracting phrases and tossed back at the interviewer.

It is a skill developed over 8 years of holding on to power in a country that, before the bloodless coup of 1970, had the unenviable reputation of having more coups or attempted coups--22 in as many years--than virtually any country in the world. "Taking power is easy," he is reputed to have told one of his closest colleagues when they were both young officers. "Holding on to it is quite another matter."

Perhaps as a reaction to Syria's turbulent past--and the ever present dangers of political instability--this reserved and rather sober man likes to emphasise his government's total consistency.

Outwardly at least, he and President as-Sadat are opposites. Mr as-Sadat, who gives more interviews in a week than his Syrian colleague does in a year, is the flamboyant media-conscious extrovert, while President al-Asad is more withdrawn, perhaps more cunning, certainly more ruthless.

He smiles when questioned about the peace efforts of his Egyptian counterpart. "Would Winston Churchill," he asked, mindful of his audience, "have been considered a hero in Britain had he gone during the Second World War to Berlin to reach a reconciliation with Hitler? The idea comes to mind," he added, sensitive to the possible interpretation of his remarks, "despite the fact that the circumstances are completely different historically, politically and in all other aspects.

"We announced our attitude towards this initiative when it was first discussed. The stand we have taken was the result of an objective analysis of its motives and its objectives. The passing days and the deterioration of events have proved us right. We find nothing to justify a change in our stand."

Just as he is careful to avoid personal abuse, so President al-Asad avoids drawing conclusions in public which may be proved wrong later. He may think President as-Sadat is after a separate peace treaty with Israel. That was his way of saying it. But he has not survived eight years at the head of the most politically complex country in the Middle East by making wild predictions. You will not catch President al-Asad saying "This is the year of peace," as As-Sadat has.

You pursue in the vain hope of getting him to admit what much of the rest of the world takes for granted namely that the As-Sadat initiative has revealed Israeli intransigence. His reply is not surprisingly partisan.

"I do not think there was any need for Mr as-Sadat to go to Jerusalem to expose the aggressive and expansionist spirit prevailing in Israel. Israel has forced our people out of their lands, occupies the territories of independent Arab countries and refuses to withdraw. It refuses to implement United Nations resolutions--I might as well say all UN resolutions--including those which contain the broad outlines for a solution under which a just peace can be achieved." Not how Mr Menahem Begin might see it, but the argument carries force nevertheless.

Just now, President al-Asad needs all his skill. His major problem remains Syria's profound involvement in the Lebanon where 30,000 troops are carrying out an uncomfortable policing role--a role many of them do not like--at a cost to the Syrian exchequer of $3m a day.

Shortly, after the scheduled departure of Israel's troops on June 13 President al-Asad and his advisers will have to decide when, or rather how since the decision has almost certainly been taken, to move part of the Syrian-dominated Arab deterrent force down to and even south of the Litani River. This would seal Syrian hegemony over Lebanon and more effectively bring the Palestinian guerrillas under the control of Damascus.

The move south would, at best, be a complicated juggling act. On the one hand Syria needs a Palestinian movement which, while being independent enough to worry Israel, is obedient enough not to draw Syria into a conflict with the Jewish state at a time not of President al-Asad's choosing. On the other hand, Syria must be seen to defend the right of the Palestinians to strike at Israel.

"Could anybody in the world expect us to act as guardians of Israel and to protect it against raids?" he asks. "It remains our view that the Palestinians should have every possibility of striking against Israel from any Arab land without exception. But," he adds deftly, "the Palestinians themselves have said they are no longer carrying out actions against Israel from Lebanese territory."

The decision to go into Lebanon was probably the single most agonised decision this former air force pilot has taken since his decision to assume ultimate power. Not least because, as one of his senior ministers told us: "Peace in Lebanon means peace in Syria. War in Lebanon could mean war in Syria."

Despite its remarkable stability since 1970, Syria remains a potentially explosive mix of religious and political rivalries. In recent months at least 18 members of the minority Alawi Moslem sect, of which President al-Asad is a member, have been assassinated. By whom is not clear for the finger is pointed accusingly as often at the majority Sunni sect, which has seen its traditional dominance eroded, as it is at the Ba'th regime in Iraq.

The decision to send troops to Lebanon was taken in the classic Al-Asad manner. Moving forward with great stealth he ensured that his decision was seen to be endorsed by all the major ruling elements which essentially means the Ba'th party, the army, and key popular organisations.

His major economic decisions bear the same stamp. The move to open Syria's north-east oil bearing region to Western oil companies--widely regarded as a key indicator of his future intentions--was carefully processed.

Two companies, Royal Dutch Shell's Houston affiliate and a smaller U.S. company, have signed production sharing agreements this year. "The decision was only reached after full debate. It is clear that the masses of our people support this policy because they are fully convinced that it is in the interests of our country."

But what of the tendency of Syrian governments in the past to nationalise foreign assets? What guarantee does he offer Western technology? "We need the expertise of the rest of the world," he says. "Foreign investment represents no threat to our sovereignty. We would be dealing our own interests a blow if we reversed our policy. There should be no fear of that."

Damascus Radio Report

JN0906055Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0715 GMT 9 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad has made important press statements to the London FINANCIAL TIMES. In his statements, President al-Asad asserted that As-Sadat's initiative is a step on the road to war and not a step on the road to peace. He said: In Syria we support Arab solidarity. We have worked and will continue to work for it. It is generally understood that every matter has its cause and, therefore, all causes that have dismembered this solidarity should be eliminated.

In reply to a question, President Hafiz al-Asad said: It is not for me to determine As-Sadat's downfall, or otherwise. This matter concerns Egypt, its institutions and people. He added that one of the results of As-Sadat's initiative is that it has weakened President Carter's capacity to exert effective efforts toward the achievement of a just peace in the area. In other words, this initiative has weakened the capacity of the U.S. President to influence Israel.

In reply to a question about southern Lebanon, President al-Asad said that the Syrian forces are helping the Lebanese Government and the Palestinians alike.

In reply to another question, the president said the question of our forces moving south of the Litani River has absolutely not even been discussed. Even if we do, could anybody expect us to protect Israel from fedayeen raids? His excellency asserted that the Palestinians should have every possibility to wage their struggle against Israel from any Arab land, without exception, until they regain their national rights. He said: We in Syria cannot prevent them from waging this struggle.

The president asserted that "Even if we were to go into southern Lebanon, we would maintain our principled stand, because the Palestine cause is ours and Israel is the aggressor. Therefore, it is the right of all Arabs, and the Palestinians in particular, to wage a continued and escalating struggle until a just peace is achieved in the area.

With regard to the Eritrean cause, the president said: We hope that all the countries of the world will understand the real Eritrean cause. He asserted: We will continue to supply the Eritreans with arms.

In conclusion, President al-Asad said: Needless to say, if it is ascertained that Israel possesses the atomic weapon, there will be no choice for the Arabs other than to obtain this weapon.

FOREIGN MINISTER KHADDAM CONCLUDES TALKS IN BONN

JN0906502Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 9 Jun 78 JN

[Excerpts] The official talks between Syria and the FRG were concluded in Bonn yesterday. An agreement for financial cooperation between the two countries was signed at the end of the talks. In accordance with the agreement, the FRG government will grant a DM 100 million loan to Syria.

Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam held intensive contacts with FRG officials and representatives of the political parties. Khaddam met with Gerhard Schroeder, head of the Federal Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee, and the committee's members.

During these meetings, Kahddam spoke about the current situation in the Middle East and explained Syria's stand on the various issues of the Middle East crisis.

The representatives of the political parties and the head and members of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Federal Assembly expressed their full understanding of the Syrian view. Khaddam answered various questions raised about the real situation in the Middle East and the positions of the parties concerned with the crisis.

Khaddam also met with Ranier Offergeld, federal minister for economic cooperation. They discussed economic relations between the two countries and set up a timetable for a future exchange of visits between technicians of the two countries. They stressed the need to expedite the implementation of projects by the German side. The talks also dealt with the proper use of FRG loans to Syria and ways to finance the various phases of these projects.

KHADDAM also met with Dr (Gerhard), member of the Federal Assembly and Christian Democratic Party. Their talks centered on the situation in the Middle East and on Arab-European relations.

Khaddam hosted a banquet last night in honor of Hans-Dietrich Genscher, which was attended by high-ranking officials, several heads of political parties and the members of the Syrian delegation.

In his speech at a dinner banquet hosted in honor of Khaddam, Genscher praised the positive role Syria has played in restoring peace to Lebanon, thanks to President al-Asad's wise policy. Genscher pointed out the positive developments in relations between the two countries.

Speaking about the significance of Arab-European cooperation, Dr Genscher said that it would be in the interest of the Europeans to see that a just peace be established in the Middle East through a comprehensive settlement. He asserted that the situation in that area continues to be serious.

In praising the Syrian role in Lebanon, Dr Genscher said that President al-Asad's policy proves Syria's will to move toward peace. Genscher called for Israeli withdrawal from southern Lebanon and called for preserving Lebanon's internal unity and sovereignty.

Holds Press Conference

JN081850Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Excerpt] 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, held a press conference in Bonn today attended by foreign radio and news agency correspondents and journalists. Mr Khaddam spoke on his talks with the FRG foreign minister and said: The talks I held with my colleague Mr Genscher and the meetings I held with a number of state officials and political party leaders were conducted in an atmosphere of cordiality and frankness. We have reviewed various issues of joint interest. We have reviewed the Middle East situation and we are convinced of the importance of establishing a just peace in that part of the world. We reviewed Arab-European relations and the need for strengthening these relations in the joint interests of the two sides and in the interest of international peace and stability.

In reply to a question on the role which Bonn can play in the interest of Middle East peace, Khaddam said: [The role is one of] working toward implementing the UN resolutions on the Middle East problem and the Palestinian issue. We must work for the implementation of the UN resolutions as a basis for establishing a just peace in the region.

In reply to a question on the calls to restore Arab solidarity and whether Syria demands the resignation of As-Sadat as a prerequisite for this restoration, the deputy prime minister and foreign minister said: We have no right to ask As-Sadat to resign because that is an internal matter. However, we have the right to ask him to correct his political stand because the question does not concern Egypt alone, but all the Arab states. He added that there is a concensus that Arab differences emerged simply because of this policy; to remove these differences, this policy must be removed. It is obvious that any political leader who pursues a certain line of policy and fails in this pursuit must resign.

On Syrian-FRG relations, Mr Khaddam said: There is cooperation in the scientific, cultural and economic spheres and in all other fields. Of the economic field, Mr Khaddam said: There is economic cooperation between us and Germany and we are working for the promotion of this cooperation. These issues are currently being discussed and we hope that the results will be positive in the interest of the two countries.

Evaluating U.S. policy in the Middle East and the tripartite arms deal, Mr Khaddam said: This deal meant more arms to Israel, which is threatening us and threatening our national security. Undoubtedly, the 50 F-5 planes given to Egypt are not worth 2 of the F-15 planes given to Israel. The balance is not changed by giving Egypt F-5 and Israel F-15 planes, but only by giving Egypt and Israel the same number and the same type.

In reply to a question on reports about an agreement between Syria and Lebanon to send a Syrian-Lebanese army to bolster the UN forces in southern Lebanon, Khaddam said: It was agreed to support the Lebanese Government in sending units from the Lebanese Army to the south.

Earlier, Mr Khaddam reviewed with Franz Josef Strauss, chairman of the Christian Social Union, the situation in the Middle East, its various developments, the results of the As-Sadat capitulationist initiative and its repercussions on the peace moves and on the general situation in the Middle East. Strauss showed understanding of the Syrian position on the various issues in the region and praised President al-Asad's wise and courageous policy as regards the Middle East problem.

ENVOY MAKES SPEECH AT UN DISARMAMENT SESSION

JN081655Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Hamud ash-Shufi, Syria's permanent representative at the United Nations has warned against the danger of the arms race among the big powers. He said that this race endangers the whole world and that it will be difficult to ward off its dangers in the future.

In his speech yesterday before the UN General Assembly special session on disarmament, Mr ash-Shufi demanded that the world organization take all the measures necessary to have all countries sign the nuclear nonproliferation treaty and all the nuclear powers offer guarantees that they will not use nuclear weapons.

The Syrian representative referred to the Israeli violations of the Arab territories, Israel's recent aggression against southern Lebanon and its use of the most lethal weapons, such as the cluster bombs, against peaceful citizens.

Ash-Shufi said that this Israeli aggression killed many peaceful and unarmed citizens and forced others to flee. Israel, he said, violated international laws and conventions and UN resolutions. The Syrian representative condemned U.S. aid to Israel and referred to the repeated U.S. statements that the United States will maintain Israel's military superiority in the region.

Ash-Shufi questioned the seriousness of the United States in its so-called peaceful efforts in the Middle East. He condemned the existing military and nuclear cooperation between the racist regimes in South Africa and Israel and pointed to the fact that they had not signed the nuclear nonproliferation treaty.

AL-ASAD RECEIVES GDR DEPUTY PREMIER KLEIBER

JN081655Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 8 Jun 78 JN

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received Mr Guenther Kleiber, deputy chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, at 1200 today. The meeting was attended by Jamil Shayya, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Dr Heinz-Dieter Winter, the GDR's ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, a review was made of the results of the third session of the meetings of the Syrian-GDR joint committee. The meeting stressed the need for increasing the activities of the committee and promoting bilateral relations between the two countries.

The meeting also discussed the Middle East situation. President al-Asad explained Syria's firm and principled stand in this regard and the pressure brought to bear on Syria as a result of this stand.

INFORMATION MINISTER RECEIVES PRESS DELEGATIONS

JN062128Y Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 6 Jun 78 JN

[Text] Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar Ahmad received in his office today the Polish press delegation and the Hungarian press delegation. The groups are visiting Syria at the invitation of the Syrian press union. Both meetings dealt with the situation in the region and Syria's information relations with Poland and Hungary.

ALGERIA

ASH-SHA'B: WESTERN INTERVENTION WILL NOT HALT LIBERATION MOVEMENTS

LD081328Y Algiers ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Jun 78 p 1 LD

[Editorial]

[Text] The French colonialist intervention in the African Continent has begun to attract new parties in the Western world which hitherto had remained distant from events in Africa, particularly after the mounting liberation tide had led to the downfall of the Portuguese colonialist bastions in Angola, Mozambique and Guinea-Bissau.

It has been decided in Washington, where the NATO summit meeting is currently being held, that experts from the United States, France, Britain and West Germany should meet in Paris next Monday in order to study what the Elysee spokesman described as problems of development and security in Africa, beginning with Zaire. It has been reported that the U.S. secretary of state prefers that this meeting "give priority to providing economic aid to Zaire and discussing the question of security and of setting up an African deterrent force."

Obviously, holding this meeting in the present circumstances when our continent is the target of a concerted colonialist-imperialist onslaught makes it difficult to exclude the possibility that the colonialist powers intend to repeat the story of the Berlin meeting which took place toward the end of the last century, when several European countries met in order to agree on dividing the black continent on the grounds that it constituted "territories without an owner."

However the countries concerned try to disguise the scheduled Paris meeting with the desire to "insure stability in Africa and try to help it overcome the problems of development," the course of events clearly indicates the real objective of such a Western bloc--namely to coordinate a large-scale colonialist interference in the African Continent's affairs through setting up and equipping the "African deterrent force." France favors the establishment of such forces to carry out a twofold task: to protect the regimes loyal to it against internal popular uprisings and encircle the revolutionary regimes, particularly those which advocate scientific revolutionary ideas for overcoming backwardness, and thus pave the way to expanding NATO influence to include Africa and the whole of the Atlantic from the Canary Islands to the Cape of Good Hope.

Therefore, the Western countries are not interested in consolidating security in Africa because they were the first to create disturbances and chaos there (such as the attacks on Benin, Western Sahara, Chad, the Congo and, currently, Madagascar). Rather they are interested in setting up a security belt around the African areas that contain raw materials and precious metals.

For this reason they are raising the slogan of "stability", which in their view means protecting agent regimes and continuing to plunder the people's wealth. They are trying to create the impression that their interference is aimed at containing the "Soviet and Cuban expansion in the continent" after it has become clear that the current conflict is a "conflict between the Western forces and Eastern forces." This is a deliberate distortion of the liberation character of the African peoples and an attempt to blot out their struggle and independent identity.

Whatever the result of the expected Paris meeting, which is a link in the conspiracy against our countries, it will fail utterly, just as the previous policy of alliances failed because the will for liberation cannot be suppressed with iron.

The NATO forces which fought alongside the French forces in Algeria did not prevent our revolution from wresting victory, even though the price paid was very high. Likewise, the American and British bases did not prevent the masses in Libya from exploding the 1 September Revolution. The Baghdad alliance did not stop Iraq from launching the 14 July Revolution.

Consequently, the new alliance which is being formed by the agent regimes and the colonialist and imperialist forces will not achieve France's objectives of destroying the liberation trend and undermining the revolution throughout Africa, because this is the will of our masses and peoples.

APS SCORES SAUDI SUPPORT FOR MOROCCO, MAURITANIA

LD0809547 Algiers APS in Arabic 0600 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD

[Excerpts] The statement the Saudi information minister made, in which he stated that Saudi Arabia, during the Algerian liberation war, disarmed its own men in order to send those arms to the Algerian revolutionaries when the Algerian revolution was about to collapse, leaves a big question mark and a big exclamation mark. It also reminds us of claims made by French historians that Algeria owes its independence to De Gaulle.

On the other hand, we may note that Saudi Arabia, which is doing its utmost to help and support the Moroccan and Mauritanian invasion armies in Western Sahara, is trying to kill two birds with one stone. It is trying to support the Rabat and Nouckohott reactionary regimes with the aim of consolidating the occupation of Western Sahara and rendering the Saharan people homeless, overlooking the fact that this people is Arab and Muslim. Evidence of this support are the funds Riyadh has provided for the purpose of arming the Moroccan Army. On the other hand, it is trying not only to support the invasion armies, but also to consolidate the French military intervention in northwest Africa, with the aim of striking at the Algerian revolution.

If Riyadh denied this, how is it then to explain its support for and consolidation of the Moroccan and Mauritanian invasion armies and the allocation of funds for equipping the invading forces? How is it to explain its support for French military intervention in northwest Africa if its aim was not to strike at the Algerian revolution? If Riyadh claims that it supports causes of liberation and struggle, what are its motives in supporting the Moroccan and Mauritanian invading armies to exterminate the Saharan revolution?

The fact is that Saudi Arabia is trying, by all ways and means, to confront all the progressive movements in the Arab homeland.

LIBYA

FOREIGN SECRETARY AT-TURAYKI RETURNS FROM UPPER VOLTA, NIGER

LD0812267 Tripoli JANA in English 0937 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Tripoli, June 8, JANA--Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary and chairman of the current session for the OAU foreign ministers' council, returned home yesterday from his visit to Upper Volta and Niger. During his visit, he conveyed Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's message to Al-Haj Aboubacar Lamizana, president of Upper Volta, and to Lt Col Seyni Kountche, the president of the Supreme Military Council in Niger.

Dr at-Turayki also headed the Libyan Arab delegation to the Permanent Committee for Afro-Arab Cooperation, which ended its meetings in Niamey on Tuesday. At these meetings, Dr at-Turayki held talks with a number of Arab and African ministers on the current situation in general and the African one in particular.

The permanent committee passed resolutions and recommendations, foremost of which were those on the coordinating committee's report, and the one put forward by the OAU and the Arab League's General Secretariat covering the activities of the permanent committee's second session.

The committee demanded that representatives of member states in working groups should be of highly qualified experts in order to fulfill the aims of the first Afro-Arab summit.

The committee [words indistinct] the transfer of the working parties' reports to the two secretariats to be studied by Arab and African specialized organizations and to have the results of this study put before the working parties as a preliminary step to presenting them to the permanent committee during its next session.

The committee welcomed the suggestion of holding a joint meeting of African and Arab ministers of information and assigned to the secretariats of the OAU and the Arab League the task of conducting talks to this effect, and talks to arrange a joint meeting of African and Arab ministers of labor. The permanent committee acknowledged the resolutions of the Afro-Arab forum on trade which was held in Khartoum.

The committee decided not to step up additional working parties and to assign to the coordinating committee for Afro-Arab cooperation the task of determining the venue and date of these working parties' next meeting, as well as the venue and date of the third session of the Joint Afro-Arab ministers' council between September and December 1978.

MOROCCO

KING HASSAN EXPLAINS MOROCCAN STANCE ON ZAIRE SITUATION

LD0908517 Milan CORRIERE DELLA SERA in Italian 6 Jun 78 pp 1, 2 LD

[Dino Frescobaldi undated interview in Fez with Moroccan King Hassan II]

[Excerpts] Fez--There is no doubt that the Moroccan Government's decision to send a contingent of its own soldiers to Zaire was more difficult to take than 1 year ago when King Hassan's soldiers practically saved Mobutu Sese Seko's regime for the first time. King Hassan himself explains the reasons which guided Morocco's conduct on this occasion. "We could not leave a country," he says, "which for many reasons occupies such an important position in the heart of Africa, exposed to what we consider a foreign act of aggression. If it had been a simple internal incident we would not have intervened."

The king also explains, however, the ways in which this Moroccan initiative in Zaire differs from the one 13 months ago. Rabat's action, he declares, is "more of dissuasion than persuasion," in the sense that it is aimed at preventing a repetition of third-party moves to destabilize African regimes. It was decided upon within the framework of inter-African consultations in which, according to the king, the Moroccan contingents were joined in the operation by another "five or six Francophone and Anglophone African countries". Finally, the operation will be accompanied by political efforts directed at Mobutu's regime so that it will be in a position to defend itself better against internal dissidence and gain more solidarity from its own population.

"Morocco," King Hussan states, "is very conscious of the duties stemming from its geographical position as a country standing guard over the entry to the Mediterranean and almost adjoining Europe. As far as we are concerned, we want to keep the entry to the Mediterranean open to and safe for everybody. [paragraph continues]

So, as far as the relationship linking us with Europe is concerned, I have decided to make it even more real by ordering the resumption of an old plan which is acquiring greater significance now that Spain is on the point of joining the EEC. This is the plan to build an undersea tunnel under the Straits of Gibraltar; in this way, Europe and Africa will be almost physically joined together."

"We realize," King Hassan states, "the dangers of a division of Africa. We want to do nothing which would encourage it. Our activity is therefore constantly guided by the principle of noninterference in other countries' affairs. If we have decided to send a contingent of 1,200 or 1,300 of our troops to Zaire, it is because we are convinced that this country has suffered an external aggression. We must deter the aggressors from repeating a similar policy again either in Zaire or in other African countries. If this deterrence operation did not succeed, the entire African Continent would be in danger. But the deterrence operation must be carried out by the Africans. We will therefore not be alone in assisting Zaire; other African countries will send their troops."

The Moroccan Government did not decide on the operation lightly. Everything suggests that it carefully assessed the risks of its second intervention in Sub-Saharan Africa, after last year's intervention served to prevent the precipitation of events but did not resolve a gravely unsound situation in Kinshasa. The Moroccans do not want to be the gendarmes of the African regimes if the latter will not take steps to enable them to defend themselves on their own. Rabat's action is therefore "inter-African" (that is, agreed on with other governments of the continent) and "temporary" (that is, confined to an emergency situation).

On the other hand, the threat to Zaire is too grave in everyone's mind for them to close their eyes to the danger of a flareup which could spread out from that country situated in the center of Africa. "Zaire," Hassan II stresses, "borders nine African states, including an Arab state, Sudan. Let us remember that beyond Sudan lie the Red Sea and the Arab Peninsula, that is to say, the world's oil. The lesson of recent events is instructive: The Kolwezi plants yielded 70 percent of the country's copper, a more than considerable slice of the world production. These plants have been entirely destroyed: It will take at least 6 months, but maybe a year, to get them working again. Who could have wanted that? Any internal adversary of a regime cannot plan to destroy his own country's wealth. An action of that kind cannot be called political; it is apolitical, madness, a crime."

A query remains regarding the Mobutu government itself. Can one defend from outside a regime which has proved itself unable to defend itself? "The Mobutu regime," King Hassan says, "must adopt a new policy. It must carry out reforms and grant greater autonomy to the populations of such a vast and composite country. In a word, the regime must try to gather more support and greater trust if the country wishes to remain united. Only thus will its inhabitants keep their eyes open and keep a watch on their borders so that infiltrations and invasions do not recur."

ROMANIAN ECONOMIC EXPERTS MAKE WEEKLONG VISIT

LD081135Y Casablanca LE MATIN in French 31 May 78 p 5 LD

[Text] Rabat, 30 May, MAP--A large delegation of experts from the Romanian Socialist Republic has been visiting Morocco since 27 May 1978.

During its visit, which will last until 5 June, the Romanian delegation, which is composed of officials responsible for overseas trade, international economic cooperation, health, agriculture and the food industry and Romanian industry representatives, will have negotiations with Moroccan officials in preparation for the next Moroccan-Romanian Joint Higher Commission meeting. The delegation's visit is part of the overall program of economic, technical and scientific development and cooperation between Morocco and Romania.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT RETURNS FROM TOUR OF ARAB COUNTRIES

LD0819S2Y Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD/EA

[Summary] President Numayri returned to Khartoum from Saudi Arabia tonight after his second tour to restore Arab solidarity. He has been away from the country for 8 days.

TUNISIA

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA MEETS WITH LIBYAN OFFICIALS

LD0818S4Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD

[Excerpt] President Habib Bourguiba had a meeting this morning at the Republican Palace in Carthage with Maj al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The meeting was attended by Habib Bourguiba Jr, the president's special adviser; Mohamed Fitouri, minister of foreign affairs; and 'Abd al Hamid az-Zintani, Libya's general representative in Tunis.

Al-Humaydi Departs

LD0818S6Y Tunis TAP in French 1500 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD

[Summary] Maj al-Khuwaylidi al-Humaydi, member of the General Secretariat of the General People's Congress of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left Tunis today at the end of talks with President Bourguiba and Prime Minister Hedi Nouira. He was seen off by Foreign Minister Mohamed Fitouri.

PLO OFFICIAL ARRIVES, MAKES STATEMENT

LD0823Z2Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD

[Summary] Abu Mazin [Mahmud 'Abbas], member of the PLO Executive Committee, arrived in Tunisia today. He was welcomed at the airport by the minister of cultural affairs. Mazin made the following statement to the radio: [begin recording]

[Mazin] "The aim of our visits to Arab countries is usually to inform officials of the situations the Palestine problem experiences and the latest developments in the Palestinian and Arab attitudes. Usually we visit Tunisia to bring the official brothers, led by his excellency the president, the great struggler, into the picture regarding developments--particularly now that the problem is going through a critical and dangerous stage.

[Question] What are the latest developments in the region?

[Answer] It is assumed that Israel has declared that it will withdraw (?this month) and it is also assumed that certain forces of the Lebanese Army will enter the south. As far as we are concerned we do not oppose the entry of the Lebanese Army to the south, especially since this will be within the Cairo Agreement. The Palestinian presence in southern Lebanon is subject to the Cairo Agreement and we have not given (?this up). Therefore our presence will be within this agreement. There may be an increase or reduction and this will be agreed with the legal Lebanese authority." [end recording]

PRIME MINISTER NOUIRA RECEIVES MAURITANIAN EDUCATION MINISTER

LD072155Y Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 7 Jun 78 LD

[Summary] Prime Minister Nouira today discussed bilateral cooperation with Mr Ahmed Ould Sidi Baba, Mauritanian minister of national education. The guest also met Foreign Minister Fitouri and Minister of Cultural Affairs Klibi. He expressed satisfaction with Tunisia's readiness to consolidate cooperation between the two countries. He also met the trade minister and they agreed to exchange visits and delegations and to double trade between the two countries.

FRG ECONOMIC COOPERATION MINISTER MEETS WITH BOURGUIBA

LD081113Y Tunis L'ACTION in French 2 Jun 78 p 2 LD

[Text] Yesterday at 1000, President Bourguiba received FRG Minister of Economic Cooperation Rainier Offergeld at Carthage Palace. The meeting took place in the presence, among others, of Habib Bourguiba Jr, special adviser to the president; Mustapha Zaanouni, minister-delegate attached to prime minister's office in charge of planning; Abderrahmane Ben Messaoud, chairman and managing director of the Tunisian Navigation Company; and the ambassadors of the two countries.

WESTERN SAHARA

SDAR DEFENSE MINISTRY SUMS UP RECENT OPERATIONS

LD071356Y Algiers APS in French 0950 GMT 7 Jun 78 LD

[Summary] Saharan Democratic Arab Republic (liberated territories)--the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic Ministry of Defense published a communique on Tuesday on recent military successes. On 2 and 3 June, in Sken and Aguenit, 10 Moroccan and Mauritanian soldiers were captured and 90 others killed. On 4 and 5 June, our brave forces operating in the Um Dreiga area attacked Moroccan and Mauritanian units escorted by French Breguet Atlantics and Moroccan F-5's. One Moroccan F-5 was shot down and its pilot taken prisoner. This is the second plane shot down since the beginning of June, the other having been shot on 2 June at Eken, crashing at El Aaiun airport, killing the pilot.

In addition, the Zouirat ore train was attacked on 27 May, near Dhibilal. The track was destroyed for a length of 200 meters and 3 locomotives and 16 cars were destroyed; 10 soldiers escorting the train were killed.

Further north, a garrison of Moroccan troops occupying the Mauritanian town of Bir-Mogrein was attacked. Various military installations in the garrison were destroyed or set on fire and some 15 Moroccan soldiers were put out of action.

RADIOS REPORT ON IDF RAID ON FATAH BASE

Two Israelis Killed

TA090612Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 9 Jun 78 TA

[Text] An IDF force last night destroyed a Fatah terrorist sea base at Dayr al-(Burj), about 10 km south of Sidon. Two of our men fell in the operation, seven suffered light injuries and one soldier was seriously wounded. The families have been notified.

The IDF spokesman said that the base was used as a launching point for seaborne sabotage operations against Israel, as well as for the training of terrorist bands and for storing sabotage material, vessels and other naval equipment.

Correspondent Gives Details

TA090707Y Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0610 GMT 9 Jun 78 TA

[From the Morning Newsreel; military correspondent Yo'az 'Abadi report--live]

[Text] Military sources have reported that the base was a typical model of a naval base. It contained a number of training areas; explosives and vessels were stored there, in particular rubber boats and speed boats.

The operation, which began at midnight, was carried out by paratroopers and naval commandoes. They landed from the sea south of the base, aiming to take its occupants by surprise. The force approached the base and opened concentrated short-range fire in the direction of the houses, especially at the sentinels on the roof and near them. In the second stage, the force started a cleanup of the houses and began blowing up the ammunition and the vessels. In one of the houses that was blown up, two IDF lieutenants were killed in the explosion, and seven other men were wounded, six of them suffering only light injuries.

No definite numbers are available of the terrorists killed, but at least seven bodies were found. Found in the possession of the terrorists were M-16's and an M-203 grenade launcher, which is a new American weapon. It is not clear how this weapon reached the terrorists.

The terrorist opposition was very slight, apparently due to the element of surprise. The IDF force returned by sea, and four of its wounded were evacuated by air.

The operation against the base at Dayr al-(Burj) was made following receipt of information that the terrorists at the base intended to make a sea strike against Israel in the near future.

RAID SAID NOT CONNECTED TO IMPENDING IDF WITHDRAWAL

TA090929Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 9 Jun 78 TA

[Excerpts] Military sources told our correspondent there is no connection between last night's IDF operation in Lebanon and the IDF withdrawal from southern Lebanon due in a few days.

At Dayr al-(Burj) there were apparently from 30 to 40 terrorists; at least seven were killed. A number of terrorists may have escaped. The entire operation lasted for about 15 minutes.

PREPARATIONS FOR IDF WITHDRAWAL FROM S. LEBANON

TA072024Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 7 Jun 78 TA

[Text] IDF units are preparing for the last stage of the withdrawal from southern Lebanon in 5 days. Portable buildings have already been dismantled and the equipment is being transferred to Israel. This was reported today to military correspondents who toured the areas that the IDF will evacuate on Tuesday. Our correspondent says that the Christian forces are completing preparations for the IDF withdrawal. They are entrenching themselves in strongholds and positions and are demonstrating a presence in the area. The Christians will cooperate with the IDF at the roadblocks until the day of the withdrawal. They are also arriving at our forces' footholds and positions. The IDF has completed paving the main roads in southern Lebanon and has patched and repaired roads that were damaged.

The southern Shi'ite Moslems are also organizing to try to prevent the return of terrorists to their villages. Our correspondnet adds that in the Beaufort Castle there are Iraqi soldiers in the guise of terrorists and that north of the Litani the terrorists have artillery.

Our correspondent has been told that the IDF remains loyal to its promise that it will insure the safety of the inhabitants of the south and to provide them with all they need.

Tyre port has resumed operation under the terrorists' auspices. Smugglers' boats carrying merchandise from Cyprus and Europe are arriving there.

DEPUTY DEFENSE MINISTER SUMS UP LITANI CAMPAIGN

TA082106Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 8 Jun 78 TA

[Text] Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Zipperi has said, summing up the Litani campaign in Lebanon, that more than 300 terrorists were killed, the terrorist organizations' military foundations were destroyed and the IDF amassed enormous quantities of weapons. At a rally of Nahal officers the deputy defense minister said that the mission of the campaign, as defined from the beginning, had been fulfilled completely and it has proved to Lebanon and to the terrorists that we have the capability of imposing order in the area.

LIKUD KNESSET LEADER CRITICIZES CARTER

TA080928Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 8 Jun 78 TA

[Text] Knesset Likud faction chairman Avraham Sharir has said in Salt Lake City that there will be no progress in the Middle East talks unless President Carter stops talking to the media. He said that President Carter's involvement keeps the Middle East in the press and, thus, President as-Sadat is unable to make concessions. Sharir thinks that President Carter should tell President as-Sadat: Stop talking to me and talk to the Israelis. President Carter, Mk Sharir said, cannot serve as a messenger.

GE'ULA KOHEN WANTS DAYAN OUT, PEACE PLAN DROPPED

TA080710Y Jerusalem POST in English 8 Jun 78 p 2 TA

[Text] Mk Ge'ula Kohen (Likud) yesterday urged dropping Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan from the cabinet--along with Israel's peace plan.

"The peace plan is dead and nothing will revive it," she maintained. Prime Minister Menahem Begin's links with Dayan are "not good," she added.

However, she told the Jerusalem POST, if the government decides to stand by its peace proposal, it should also retain Dayan. "He's very good for it," she observed.

Kohen and other Herut members will today try to stop the government from deciding on Israel's replies to the U.S. questions on the future of the West Bank, until Herut's Central Committee discusses the matter.

Gershon Salomon, a member of Kohen's group, will demand a political debate at today's Central Committee meeting (called to discuss municipal and organizational matters). There has been no political debate for months and "we shall demand that the ministers make no decision before the Central Committee approves their policy," Kohen said. Earlier this week Kohen persuaded her Knesset faction to seek a meeting with Begin prior to Monday's cabinet meeting. The political debate in the faction is scheduled for tomorrow.

PEACE MOVEMENT PREPARING APPEAL TO CABINET

TA080700Y Jerusalem POST in English 8 Jun 78 p 3 TA

[Text] The peace movement will put up 300 stations on Saturday, to distribute leaflets and collect signatures on an appeal to the government to moderate its policies. The move is timed in part to influence the cabinet on the eve of its decision on questions from the U.S. regarding the future status of the West Bank and how Palestinians will participate in determining their future.

Amir Bar-On, a spokesman for the movement, said they want the government to "express readiness for a compromise and return to the negotiating path." The 300 stations and three vans will be located at sites from Ruweiba to the Golan Heights.

The peace movement (formerly known as "Peace Now") has reportedly received the signatures of 101 Jews in Italy, expressing their support. The signatories include Jewish professors, former members of the Italian Parliament and the deputy head of the Jewish community in Torino.

MILITARY GOVERNMENT DENIES SHILO SETTLERS TO LEAVE

TA081814Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 8 Jun 78 TA

[Text] The military government in Judaea and Samaria has denied that the governor of Ramallah promised the mukhtars of the villages near the Shilo settlement that the settlement will be removed in another 6 months. Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari reports that the settlers appealed to the military government to check whether the mukhtars' claim was correct and, as stated, the claim was denied. In a talk with our correspondent, the mukhtars said that Israeli elements had encouraged them to appeal to the supreme court but that they refused, saying that not an inch of land had been taken from them.

IDF STOPS REPORTERS FROM VISITING GUSH EMUNIM SETTLERS

TA080730Y Jerusalem POST in English 8 Jun 78 p 2 TA

[By Joshua Brilliant]

[Text] Dayr Sharaf--The IDF yesterday prevented Gush Emunim from taking reporters into settlers' quarters at the edge of nearby Camp Shomron, and a Gush representative charged it was an attempt to limit the movement's capacity for presenting its case against the government.

Meanwhile trucks delivered sand for hothouses, and power shovels churned through land outside Camp Bet El and in the Nahal settlement at Tapuah to prepare sites for prefabricated homes for settlers.

A Gush Emunim official who accompanied the press tour to Camp Shomron said that a GHq colonel who deals with new settlements had refused permission for journalists to enter Bet El and Tapuah when he was approached earlier this week. But he only "advised" them not to enter Camp Shomron and Camp Giv'on, reporters were told. (They were allowed into Giv'on later in the day.)

The Gush Emunim tour arrived at noon at a special entrance prepared for the settlers, but found the gate chained and guarded by two soldiers in combat gear.

The IDF spokesman did not comment on the incident, but a senior army source reported that special instructions had been given to prevent the reporters from going in. Foreign television crews, however, were not stopped from filming the camp from the gate opposite the settlers' quarters, which seemed to suggest that the ban on journalists was political, and not designed to prevent military secrets from leaking out.

Despite the ban, reporters saw truckloads of sand passing to a nearby plot. A settler said the sand was needed for hothouses for flowers.

Some of the 24 families and four "singles" work in a school and kindergartens there, but none works for the army. An attempt by the army to employ some of the settlers failed, the Jerusalem POST learned.

In the area between Camp Bet El's western fence and the Ramallah-Nabulus road, land was being levelled for the first 30 prefabricated structures due by September 1. Hayyim Harari of the settlers' committee said they expect another 30 dwelling units by November 1. The present land works cover 35 dunam, but the final plan covers a 250-dunam area on which 90 dwelling units, a regional school and a yeshiva will be built.

Harari said, "not a single dunam of privately owned land was expropriated."

At Tapuah, land is being prepared for 30 to 40 families of Moshav Bareqet. Gush Emunim said the settlement group includes 37 families. The group will engage in diamond-cutting the POST was told.

But Gush Emunim complained that the government is not doing enough. Gush leader Hannan Porat told yesterday's press conference in Jerusalem that the government had prepared neither the necessary infrastructure nor a serious master plan for permanent settlement.

Another leader, Rabbi Moshe Levinger, said he had expected the government to build "highways criss-crossing Judaea and Samaria" and devote "billions" to developing the area. "Instead we got caravans and huts."

Gush political secretary Gershon Shafat urged the government to expropriate land where necessary for settlement. If privately owned land is needed, "it should be seized and the owners compensated, just as is done in Tel Aviv and Haifa," he said.

The movement threatened a drive against the government over settlement. "They're very sensitive to our criticism," one of the leaders told reporters.

Knesset members who support Gush Emunim appeared unperturbed by the possibility that the settlement measures may harm chances for peace. MK Moshe Shamir (Likud) yesterday called Egypt's President Anwar as-Sadat "a Hitler on the Nile" who still wants to destroy Israel.

MINISTER WEIZMAN RETURNS HOME FROM ZURICH

TA081709Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1700 GMT 8 Jun 78 TA

[Text] The producer has just handed me a report that a few minutes ago Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman returned on an El Al plane which arrived in Israel from Zurich. Our correspondent Beni Rom says that the defense minister got straight into his car, which was waiting for him near the plane, and left the airport. Our correspondent will not be able to find out from the minister of defense exactly what he did in Europe.

MINISTER SHARON, DEPUTY MINISTER FLUMIN RETURN

TA090810Y Tel Aviv HA'AREZ in Hebrew 9 Jun 78 p 1 TA

[Text] ITIM--Last night, Minister of Agriculture Ari'el Sharon returned by El Al from Frankfurt at the end of a 4-day visit to "Agrexco" [Israeli Agricultural Export Company] marketing centers.

The minister of agriculture, who was the keynote speaker at "Jerusalem Day" in London, said on his return that he made it clear to his audience that there are issues vital to the existence of Israel. "These issues are far more important to us than convenience or the price of oil which the West would have to pay," he said.

Deputy Minister Yehezqel Flumin also returned last night from Frankfurt after a 6-week tour in South America, where he represented the country at the 30th anniversary celebrations. In the course of his tour he met several finance ministers, among them those of Colombia, Peru and Argentina.

DEFENSE MINISTRY APPOINTS NEW OVERSEAS REPRESENTATIVES

TA090627Y Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 9 Jun 78 TA

[Text] Maj Gen Arye Levi, until now head of the IDF Quartermaster Corps, has been appointed head of the Defense Ministry delegation in the United States and Canada.

Zevi Allon, until now head of the Defense Ministry Purchasing Division, has been appointed head of the Defense Ministry delegation in Europe. He will be succeeded by Brig Gen Hayyim Golan, who is about to be released from the IDF.

WEST GERMAN OFFICIAL ARRIVES FOR VISIT

TA090809Y Jerusalem POST in English 9 Jun 78 p 3 TA

[Text] ITIM--The president of the Rhineland Palatinate and vice-chairman of the West German Bundesrat, Dr Bernhard Vogel, arrived in Israel yesterday for a week-long visit as guest of the Foreign Ministry. He is accompanied by Dr Georg Goelter, his minister of social affairs, health and sports.

Dr Vogel is scheduled to meet with President Yizhaq Navon, Foreign Minister Moshe Dayan, Interior Minister Yosef Burg and Labour and Social Affairs Minister Israel Katz.

AFGHANISTAN

TARAKI INTERVIEWED ON COUNTRY'S COURSE

DW0810407 Hamburg DIE ZEIT in German 9 Jun 78 p 4 DW

[Andreas Kohlschuetter "Exclusive Interview" with Afghanistan's new premier, Nur Mohammad Taraki, in Kabul "In June"]

[Text] ZEIT: Afghanistan's history is rich in coups d'etat. What particular significance do you accord the latest putsch?

Taraki: It involves a genuine revolution and not a mere coup d'etat, let alone a military coup as reactionary circles at home and abroad contend. From the very outset this revolution has been led by the "People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan" founded on 1 January 1965.

ZEIT: But you and your political friends were in jail when the military took up arms against President Daud on the morning of 27 April.

Taraki: A few days before Daud had seven party leaders, including myself, arrested and incarcerated. He intended to kill us just like our fellow party member Mir Akhbar Khayber who was shot to death in the street on 17 April. We had to act, otherwise the party would have been destroyed, a whole generation of revolutionaries liquidated and Afghanistan's exploitation prolonged for decades.

ZEIT: Were you prepared for the putsch?

Taraki: Following the murder of Khayber and our gigantic demonstration against the Daud regime on the occasion of the funeral, the situation had rapidly aggravated. Our friends in the army had been warned in advance. I am most profoundly grateful to the soldiers for their action. They liberated all of us from jail and took me to headquarters. A few hours after the start of events, I was at the command post and issued all orders. Military men obeyed my instructions. They are the sons, the children of our party.

ZEIT: Where do you see the revolutionary character of the change in regimes in Kabul?

Taraki: For the first time in the history of Afghanistan the power in the state has been shifted from one class to another, from the aristocrats and exploiters to the workers and peasants, to the mass of the oppressed, toiling people.

ZEIT: What goals have you set for yourself?

Taraki: We plan profound reforms, for we want to turn away from the past and the revolution. Social injustice, backwardness, discrimination and pessimism must be counteracted and corruption, immorality, illiteracy and unemployment must be eliminated. This is why we are staffing the lower-level positions of the state apparatus with loyal party members, whom we are sure will not be bribed and will not misuse their position.

ZEIT: What are your priorities in the field of social and economic policies?

Taraki: We want to put effective land reforms into force, give peasants land of their own, set up agricultural cooperatives and put an end to feudal dependency. Increasingly, we want to place external and internal trade under state supervision, control inflation, and strengthen the public sector of the economy through scientific planning. These economic changes form the preconditions for the social transformation of Afghan society. I believe it will be a year or two before we can go through with our plans for land reform.

ZEIT: Are any more nationalization measures envisaged?

Taraki: The Daud clique pilfered Afghanistan. Hundreds of millions were taken out of the country immediately. There is nothing left here which could be nationalized.

ZEIT: How do you propose to eliminate unemployment and reclaim the roughly 1 million Afghan workers who have gone abroad, primarily to Iran, in search of jobs?

Taraki: We must plan and think on a large scale. Foreign credits and aid should be channeled to large-scale projects. Only in this way can we absorb the Afghan labor in our own country. In this respect our future efforts must be concentrated on neglected central Afghanistan.

ZEIT: Do you have any precise ideas about such investment projects?

Taraki: Only in rough outlines. We need the expertise of international experts who will ascertain our requirements, who will advise us on what and how much should be invested, and where. Like patients, we depend on the diagnosis and prescription of adept physicians.

ZEIT: Decree No 1 of the revolutionary government dealt with the equalization of flour rations and noon meal remuneration.

Taraki: This measure is in keeping with our ideas of democracy, social justice, and human dignity. Why should a worker and his family receive only 35 kilograms of low-priced flour a month while a public servant gets 56 kilograms? In the army, too, an equalization of the food rations from sergeant up to marshal has been ordered. These are progressive reform measures which benefit the people and which we can order and enforce immediately. Our great social and economic reforms, in contrast, need time, a lot of time.

ZEIT: How communist is the "People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan?"

Taraki: There is no communist party in our country. We are Afghans and represent the working people. We want to promote the prosperity of those people. We respect the principles of Islam, positive customs and traditions and the principle of private property. We advocate a foreign policy of strict, objective nonalinement. We accept aid and support from everywhere, as long as it is granted without conditions or any neocolonialist or imperialist snares.

ZEIT: Would you call your party Marxist?

Taraki: We consider ourselves to be radical reformers and progressive democrats. Marxism-Leninism is not a formula which we apply or claim. Just read our party program and judge for yourself.

ZEIT: At the moment this program is unobtainable. All foreign embassies are desperately trying to get a copy.

Taraki: Unfortunately, I left it at home today. But listen to me. Do not try to penetrate my heart and my mind. You will never manage to do that. Mark my words and accept them: We are Afghans who want to create a democratic and progressive political system in Afghanistan. We will not join any military alliance. We want to stay independent and avoid becoming a satellite. We are seeking a development model that will accommodate our society and our living conditions.

ZEIT: Did not President Daud, whom you overthrew, advocate exactly the same policy in exactly the same words?

Taraki: He pretended to be progressive and even leftist oriented. But this was a pure lie. Socially, economically and politically everything remained unchanged. The land reforms he promised did not make any headway and were stymied by Daud's cliquishness and nepotism. The "national front," along with the other political forces in the country that were promised, forces which had participated in the overthrow of the monarchy in 1973, never materialized. Daud prohibited our party from participating in his government. He was much too domineering, conceited and despotic to share power with anyone. This is why he really never could make up his mind to set up a political movement of his own. In foreign policy he stuck to nonalinement and neutrality only for appearance's sake. In reality, he capitulated to the reactionaries within and without. He collaborated with royalists and imperialists.

ZEIT: Do you mean the United States, Saudi Arabia or Iran?

Taraki: I do not want to mention names.

ZEIT: A manifesto of your party, allegedly written last year, reads: "The fight between international socialism and international imperialism, that has been waged since the Great October Revolution," is "the basic conflict of contemporary history." Is this assessment in line with your ideology?

Taraki: I think this analysis is correct. That is the way it is. One camp is represented and headed by the Soviet Union, the other by America.

ZEIT: Where does Afghanistan stand in that conflict?

Taraki: Where independence, objective avoidance of pacts and positive neutrality leads us. Every state that will cooperate politically and economically with our revolutionary government will be our friend. That also pertains to the United States of America. The quality of our relations, however, will be characterized by the respective volume and preparedness to render support.

ZEIT: And that preparedness is greater on the Soviet side?

Taraki: The Soviet Union was the first state to recognize the independence of Afghanistan in 1921, the Republic of Afghanistan in 1973 and the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan in 1978. We are receiving voluminous and selfless economic and technical aid from the Soviet Union.

ZEIT: Since the withdrawal of the British from India in 1947, Afghanistan has been contesting Pakistan's claim for the north-western provinces populated by the Pushtuns. The Pushtuns, dominating part of Afghanistan, consider the "right of Pushtun and Baluchi self-determination" a joint national affair, which is a national threat for Pakistan. How will the new government react to that problem?

Taraki: It depends first of all on the Pushtuns and Baluchis living in Pakistan. We are basically supporting national liberation movements. We are checking the dossiers without any pressure for time or deadlines. Within the framework of our efforts aimed at neighborly relations, we are striving for a peaceful, political solution to that problem. Time does not matter in this respect.

No imminent danger exists. Potentially, however, the Pushtun problem remains explosive. I hope Pakistan will realize that.

ZEIT: Will you permit other parties, including opposition forces, to partake in the political life of Afghanistan? When do you plan to hold general elections?

Taraki: As soon as conditions will permit and as soon as the domestic political situation has stabilized sufficiently. That time has not come yet and it cannot be fixed in advance. Also, I do not rule out the admittance of other parties in the future as long as they do not act against the aims of the government and the interests of the people.

ZEIT: How many people were killed during the coup? How many were executed and how many were arrested?

Taraki: Not more than 70 to 100 people lost their lives in the fight for Kabul.

ZEIT: How did the 2,000 palace guards, who defended the presidential palace and fiercely fought the tank troops, vanish?

Taraki: The guard units were dissolved and distributed to other units. No one has been executed so far. During the fighting, Daud, part of his family and several ministers who were resisting, were killed. At present, we have 47 prisoners, including men, women and children, as well as half a dozen ministers. They are all relatives and representatives of the aristocratic, despotic regime. They are safer with us than they would be if exposed to the fury of the people. We will do nothing to the women and the children. They can leave the country and go wherever they want to. They can get married again. But for the men there can be no excuses. They will be held responsible for their deeds by the Revolutionary Military Court.

ZEIT: What do you consider as "genuine Islam" which, according to your statements, will be introduced in Afghanistan?

Taraki: We respect the principles of Islam. Afghanistan is and remains an Afghan nation where everyone can carry out his religious rites without any restriction. But religion must not be used as a means for those who want to sabotage progress and to continue exploiting and suppressing the people. The price a man has to pay for his wife ought to be eliminated. That custom, along with veils for women, is not in line with any stipulation of the Koran. We want to clean Islam in Afghanistan of the ballast and dirt of bad traditions, superstition and erroneous belief. Thereafter, we will have progressive, modern and pure Islam.

ZEIT: Are not you and your government running the risk of asking too much of the traditional and conservatively Islamic people of Afghanistan?

In the 1920's, the overzealous, reformist monarch Amanullah, for whom you have great regard, ordered that women must stop wearing veils, that mixed schools must be introduced, and that the power of the religious establishment must be curtailed. He failed because he did not pay enough attention to the intellectual and social situation in Afghanistan.

Taraki: Amanullah failed because he was too weak. He did not develop an effective army or a strong central government. He did not have enough power. In addition, the British were plotting against him. We are strong enough to keep all antidemocratic and antinational forces, who could turn against our revolution in the name of religion or because they are paid by a foreign power, under control. We shall defeat them and silence them. The people will follow us out of conviction or out of fear of punishment. We do not want to overhasten our reforms; we want to implement them step by step. Yet, we will not be able to do that completely without applying some force.

HEALTH MINISTRY ORDERS FREE MEDICAL CARE

LD081808Y Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 29 May 78 LD

[Text] Here is a Ministry of Public Health statement: As a first step toward free medical care for all workers, all hospital laboratory examinations in all the laboratories of the Public Health Ministry throughout the country shall be free. This is one of the revolutionary goals of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. Let all patients, technicians and administrative personnel in the laboratories of the Ministry of Public Health know this and act accordingly.

BANGLADESH

FOREIGN SECRETARY HUSSAIN ARRIVES IN BURMA

For Rangoon Domestic Service coverage of the delegation of Bangladesh Foreign Secretary Hussain in Burma, see the Burma section of the 8 June Asia & Pacific DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

BANGLADESH OBSERVER COMMENTS ON PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION

BK090745Y Dacca THE BANGLADESH OBSERVER in English 5 Jun 78 pp 1, 12 BK

[Editorial: "People's Mandate"]

[Text] Major General Ziaur Rahman has won a landslide victory in the presidential election held on June 3. Although yet to be officially declared, the results are unalterable and the staggering figure of votes secured by him unmistakably reflects the massive confidence of the people in him and his scheme of bringing about a change in the country for the overall improvement of the common people.

One thing, for which both the people and the election conducting machinery deserve special commendation, is the atmosphere of order and discipline in which polling at all the centres was conducted. This was the first ever presidential election on the basis of direct and universal adult franchise. There was a noticeable attitude of ease and lack of tension between supporters of the candidates, which reflect a decided improvement in the political behaviour of a people that has been through vicissitudes and emotionalising over politics in the past. The psychological change that seems to have come overnight is, however, no accident. In any crisis involving the destiny of the nation, the people of Bangladesh have always risen to the occasion. They showed the same sense of responsibility and commitment on historic June 3. The impressive response of the voters to his call has also exploded the age-old myth that elections cannot be held during the monsoon.

The tide in the affairs has pushed Major General Ziaur Rahman to a position of exceptional responsibility having regard to the fact that the nation had been existing--amidst intelligible fears and doubt--in a gaping political vacuum. The elections have filled that vacuum. It has, besides, resuscitated the dynamics of a nation that has been anxiously waiting for a democratic process to be initiated and advanced.

The peaceful conclusion of the elections is a sure step forward from the negation and stagnation of the past. Optimism would be justified that once the thaw has been started the people's will combined with the leadership of the person they have chosen in a free and fair contest will have helped the nation not only to cross the Rubicon but will take it a long distance ahead to its goals.

For President Ziaur Rahman, it is a tremendous responsibility that he has assumed by being elected president. He has shown his mettle already during his tenure of office as chief martial law administrator, and later, as president of the country. The position, it is true, has not basically changed, because his commitment and involvement remains the same. But the people's mandate--and an overwhelming one at that--has considerably accentuated that commitment and involvement. To begin with, he belongs to the nation henceforward more spaciously [as published] than ever before, or immediately before the elections were over. The compelling requirements of his position as president puts him above parties, factions and groups. His policies both national and international would have to be so framed as to stabilize and take ahead the democratic process just inaugurated and in keeping with the wishes and aspirations of the people and the mandate they have given. We have to orientate the nation's future course to all that will strengthen the national institutions, historical traditions, national solidarity and viability. In fact, vision and imagination alone can see us through a future that cannot be taken easy for a nation that has been through crises in the past and is set the task of rebuilding it in a very serious sense of the term.

The first thing that is in great demand now is peace and stability in the widest social and other senses. Justice at all levels and a firm enforcement of order discipline and a national sense of responsibility could alone stabilize the fruits of the historic decision obtained on June 3. In fact, into many a sector of national life a fresh look would be indispensable. To dynamise afresh both the administrative machinery and the entire national life cannot also wait. Yes, we have achieved quite something over the years. But we cannot just sit on our oars.' Much waits to be accomplished and that with a good deal of pains--and self-examination--on everybody's part.

Along with the political process just initiated, economic reconstruction of the country will have to be resumed--or continued--at a greater speed. Rural development, which has been President Ziaur Rahman's major interest, is expected to be accelerated in the right key and with greater effectiveness. People's verdict given in the elections is a fresh earnest of the people's increased cooperation with President Ziaur Rahman and his government in pushing ahead and implementing development programmes.

Elections in the democratic process are an excitement of a single day for the contesting persons and parties. That is what has been seen to be the conduct of the great democracies now functioning in the world. The elections over, we expect the nation's cause would be supreme to the loser as much as it is to the winner.

INDIA

DESAI ARRIVES IN NEW YORK 8 JUNE, MEETS IENG SARY

BK0910042Y Delhi General Overseas Service in English 1000 GMT 9 Jun 78 BK

[Excerpts] The prime minister, Mr Morarji Desai, was given a warm welcome when he arrived in New York yesterday evening on an 8-day visit to the United States. Shortly after his arrival, the deputy prime minister of Kampuchea called on Mr Desai. Our correspondent says this is the first time since the setting up of the new government in Kampuchea that such a meeting took place between representatives of the two countries. At the meeting, Mr Desai said India has repeatedly expressed the hope that the dispute between Kampuchea and Vietnam will be resolved peacefully through negotiations. He hoped Kampuchea will follow the policy of genuine nonalinement and will not allow any foreign power to interfere in its internal affairs.

CHARAN SINGH RELEASED FROM DELHI HOSPITAL

BK090930Y Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 9 Jun 78 BK

[Excerpt] The home minister, Mr Charan Singh, has been discharged from the All-India Institute of Medical Sciences. He will be staying for some time at Suraj Kund, a health resort near Delhi, where he will take a rest. He was admitted to the hospital on 24 April. Talking to newsmen at the institute, Mr Charan Singh expressed the hope that he will be in a position to take up normal work by next month. In the meantime, he will be attending to very important matters only.

COMMUNIST PAPER NOT IMPRESSED BY BANGLADESH ELECTION

BK081332Y DELHI PATRIOT in English 5 Jun 78 p 2 BK

[Editorial: "Bangla Circus"]

[Text] Whatever the size of the "majority" claimed by General Ziaur Rahman in the Bangladesh presidential "election," the circus conducted by him will not convince anyone, except his communal followers in the famous front and in the fighting forces, that any change has taken place in the country. Dictators demanding and securing formal constitutional approval from a rigged exhibition of "popular" support is not unique. It has happened in many countries and will happen in the future. But rarely have such exercises been so blatantly hypocritical as Saturday's Bangladesh election. The general, who was and even now continues to be the chief martial law administrator, started preparing for this show as early as October last year when about 150 air force and army personnel not acceptable to him were brutally executed in Dacca and Bogra. Next came the turn of certain politicians headed by Mr Jalil. Over 30 of them were butchered on the charge that they had tried to escape to India. About the same time the Communist Party of Bangladesh and other groups who had played valiant roles in the historic struggle that brought freedom to their country were banned and, universally respected leaders like Moni Singh jailed.

Even such brutal suppression of political and military opponents did not bring self-confidence to Gen Zia and his cohorts who consist of pro-Pakistani Moslem zealots, pro-Peking adventurers who are paid by China, agents of the American CIA and other "political" riffraff. The general erased secularism from the list of constitutional objectives the nation had set itself, announced that when he became president and/or chief martial law adviser, the system of government would be presidential, meaning thereby that there would be no parliamentary nonsense. And, if at all, a parliamentary camouflage is affected no one other than the president would have any power. Before election day the martial law administration decreed that the number of polling booths be reduced from 50,000 to 21,000. It was also announced that all booths would be manned by army men. Even so, the people who were brought to attend General Zia's election meeting were ridiculously small compared to the crowds that shouted "joy Bangla" whenever the Gonotantrik Oikka Jote led by Gen Osmani--a well known freedom fighter--managed to hold meetings in spite of every kind of difficulty created by the wielders of martial law. General Osmani, General Rahman and others who head the opposition front have already announced that they regard the election as totally rigged. They have also said that they will not accept the result.

An election very similar to this was the first cause of the downfall of Mr Bhutto in Pakistan. The show put up in Bangladesh is not likely to make the government there any stabler. People of the entire subcontinent will watch with deep anxiety further developments in unfortunate Bangladesh.

PAKISTAN

HAQ RECEIVES SAUDI AMBASSADOR AL-KHATIB

LD081929Y Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 8 Jun 78 LD

[Text] Gen Ziaul Haq, Pakistan's military ruler, received Saudi Ambassador to Pakistan Shaykh Riyad al-Khatib this evening. During the meeting, which was held at the request of Gen Ziaul Haq, several issues of common interest were discussed, including the issue of the implementation of the Islamic Shari'ah in Pakistan.

The Pakistani military ruler is reported to have said that Pakistan looks at the kingdom and its leadership as a source of guidance. It is expected that Gen Ziaul Haq will declare certain Islamic measures in the country this month.

PAKISTAN, PRC BORDER TRADE DELEGATIONS HOLD FINAL TALKS

BK090954Y Karachi Overseas Service in English 0930 GMT 9 Jun 78 BK

[Text] The final round of trade talks was held in Gilgit yesterday between the Pakistani officials and the visiting Chinese border trade delegation. They also agreed in principle to include certain new items from both the sides in the border exchange program for 1978-79.

ARMY WITHDRAWAL FROM CIVIL ADMINISTRATION REQUESTED

BK090226Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0210 GMT 9 Jun 78 BK

[Text] Karachi, June 9 (AFP)--Professor Ghafoor Ahmed, secretary general of the eight-party former opposition Pakistan National Alliance (PNA), has suggested to the martial law authorities that the army should be withdrawn from the civil administration.

In an informal chat with newsmen here yesterday, Prof Ahmed said at present there was dual administration comprising civilian and military personnel.

For example, there were civil courts as well as military courts. There was no clear demarcation between them, which resulted in duplication of work and problems for the people.

The PNA secretary general called on the martial law government to take "practical steps" for holding general elections in the country and dispelling doubts from the public mind. He called for a fixed and final timetable for the elections.

Meanwhile, Maulana Kausar Niazi, leader of the breakaway group of former Premier Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto's Pakistan People's Party, also called for early elections here yesterday.

SUBSCRIPTION INFORMATION

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